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Surgery.

SURGICAL DETAILS.

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It has occurred to me, and possibly to some others, that a little more attention might profitably be devoted to these small matters of every day surgical work in which even the general practitioner would be likely to take an interest. The major operations seem to have absorbed the attention of the profession, if we can judge by the contributions to our journals. Of course all of us who aspire to surgical honors wish it to be kept steadily in mind that a large share of our nights as well as all our days are devoted to celiotomies, hysterectomies and such weighty matters, so that all these petty details and tiresome minutiæ are attended to, necessarily, by the assistants. Still, let us not forget that high artistic excellence is to be achieved by attention to infinite detail and perfection of finish no less than by boldness of design and dash in execution. This shall be my apology then, if any is needed, for discussing some very common-place matters, just because they are common-place and constantly important.

I am convinced that surgeons, as well as physicians, give far too little thought to the comfort and convenience of our patients. We burden them with a multitude of injunctions and restrictions which are utterly unnecessary and indefensible, if only looked into with judgment. We put them to a great deal of needless expense and trouble, and needless inconvenience and discomfort by cumbersome dressings and washings and irrigations repeated five times over where once is far better. If only these doctors could be made to change places with their patients they would soon learn some mercy and consideration.

If I dared to take the room to say half I would like, upon the application of this idea in detail, in various directions, I should end by writing one of those "long-winded" articles which we all "skip" when we look over our medical periodicals.

Perhaps this is as good a place as any to speak of preparations for operations.

As for myself I have been a convert to antiseptic surgery from the very first enunciation of the doctrine by Lister, at least twenty-five years ago. But though I accepted the doctrine then, I never was convinced that it was necessary to follow Lister in all he did or recommended; and although I claim to have always practiced antiseptic surgery, I have certainly never thought it necessary to follow all the vagaries and fads of those who, during the last few years, have as much out-Listered Lister as Sam Swan with his millionth "potencies" has out-done good Father Hahnemann and his thirtieths.

If all these antiseptic and aseptic antics were to be performed by the surgeon and his assistants or even by the nurses by themselves and upon themselves it might be excused for the sake of the overpowering "impression" it is expected to make upon the astonished bystanders. But when it comes to wreaking a large amount of it upon the luckless patient I feel impelled to rise up, as the lawyers do, and object. It does not seem necessary, for instance, to commence purging a patient two days in advance of an operation for piles, to be finished up with copious and repeated enemata. On the other hand it seems quite reasonable and necessary that a full evacuation should be secured in advance of all pelvic or abdominal operations both by a mild laxative, given the preceding evening, and a copious enema in the morning. It is certainly desirable that the patient should be clean, particularly about the region to be operated upon; and this in public hospital and dispensary practice often means much. In addition, there is no harm, but rather a possible advantage in sponging or irrigating the surfaces involved, with some harmless antiseptic. Such a preparation as here outlined is simplicity itself compared to the elaborate and exhausting scourings and scrubbings and douchings and packings we see directed so often by those who seem anxious to find some extra "wrinkle" to add to the methods of all who have gone before them. Let us not wear our patients out before they reach the operating table. I do not wish to encourage carelessness or neglect of any necessary precaution. I do plead for all that is really essential to the highest success, and no unnecessary burdens and discomforts, especially to the patient.

It is possible, by due attention to all the details, to so far rid many operations of their horrors that the patient shall look back to that experience as almost a luxury; and no other agency contributes anything like as much toward such a result as the delicate and untiring ministry of a good trained nurse.

The surgeon who does not appreciate this fact enough to treat her with kindness and consideration deserves to be left at the mercy of the grannies and hags who formerly made the sick room so often a place of torment.

As one item of surgical detail of the utmost importance, I should like, some time, to discuss briefly the management of the anesthetic, as upon this depends to a large extent the comfort and safety of the patient as well as the convenience of the surgeon.

TWENTY YEARS OF SURGERY.—NO. III.

By CHARLES S. MORLEY, M. D., Detroit, Michigan.

RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT.

Before proceeding, a reply should be made to the many kindly criticisms called out by these papers, and first of all I wish to state the sense in which I use the term "science." Believing as I do in the unity of nature and also in the unity of science, it is impossible for me to consider the possibility of two sciences of either medicine or surgery. And what is "Science" but nature revealing herself to human understanding? Hahnemann's method and not his dogma compels me to recognize a claim for Homeopathy to a position amongst the experimental sciences. Twenty years ago I had a hope that the method would win in the hands of the Homeopathic school, and for this reason in part I undertook the work of a surgeon in the interest of progress in Michigan. But in these years I have noted the lack of precision in our provings, some of which are a reproach and stigma to all of us.

Upon the other side I have noted a steady advance in pure observation and rational experiment until I witness the vast area that should have been traversed by us now fully preempted by our friends on the other side. The fact remains, however, that wittingly or unwittingly the method of Hahnemann has made its way throughout the world, so that there is now no therapeutist that does not base all scientific claims upon experiment upon the healthy organism.

From this point of view, the conclusion is irresistible that, in time, medicine must proceed in its own course, and surgery in a different course.

In other words, I do not believe in an "Homeopathic surgery," but I do believe in surgery and in Homeopathy.

Now, as to the methods of surgery, I am no stickler for chemical antisepsis, if any one will show me a more successful antisepsis.

I certainly hold myself ready to test the question by the side of any man working without efficient means of destroying germ life—calling all cases not perfect where dressings have to be removed before the wound is healed, and all cases failures where there is pus present!

And, having stated my position frankly, I desire to proceed with the practical discussion.

NOTEWORTHY CASES OF SURGERY.

Case I.—1874.—I saw A. H——, aged 45 years, fifteen hours after sustaining compound comminuted fracture of tibia, fibula and astragalus.

Treatment: "Cleaned it up," put into hot carbolated bath for about two hours; wiped out wound with strong carbolic solution; dressed with plaster cast open at wounds, which were dressed with carbolized oil; patient walked after four months with ankle fixed; very little pus.

Customary treatment at the time—amputation.

Case II.—1891.—In my service at the Grace Hospital, Detroit, Mich.—Young man, aged 25 years, fell thirty feet from a roof, striking on right foot, driving broken tibia and fibula into the ground some inches; astragalus broken in many pieces; ambulance brought him in seven miles.

Removed astragalus and articular facets of calcaneus; cut tibia and fibula across; brought surfaces in apposition; held them there with silk-worm gut. Irrigation 1-4000 bichloride and bichloride gauze dressing. Silk-worm gut drains. Soft parts closed by catgut sutures. Healed without pus. Patient sat up in two weeks; out of bed twentieth day on crutches; walked with cane in six weeks and without in two months.

Case III.—1874—Mrs. M. P——, aged 42 years, had long suffered from convulsions I now know were hystero-epileptic. Two physicians had been in constant attendance for twenty-four hours but abandoned the case. I found an enormous cervix protruding from the vagina. I now know it was a stellate laceration with exuberant granulations. Single handed I peeled up the tissues, after the manner of Dr. Pratt's present method, after which I cut off the cervix and fastened the vaginal mucosa over the stump with four silver sutures. Recovery.

Some oozing; some fœtor; some sutures left scars. This was the first operation of the kind I had heard of west of New York.

Case IV.—1890.—Parallel cases, treated by curette, tamponade, puncture of cysts and finally tracheolorraphy, with chemical antisepsis. Typical result, i. e., restoration of cervical canal. No pus. No scars from sutures.

Case V.—1874.—Huron street hospital, Cleveland, Ohio. Service of Dr. Von Tagen. Wound from great trochanter to popliteal space, splitting muscles to linea aspera. Had been dressed four days before at Norwalk, Ohio. Wound gangrenous. Strip of cloth with seam in it removed from wound where it had been forced by flange of car wheel. There were maggots on and around the cloth. Treated by the doctor's *Bromine* method. Great suppuration—inter-muscular—and sloughing.

Nearly all the muscles had to be separated by "free incision and packing with carbolized oil dressings. The man was a physical wreck when he left the hospital but eventually recovered—after several years. Dr. Von Tagen followed every principle of surgery in vogue today except the antiseptics.

This wound suppurated the most profusely of any I have seen. Credit was given to *Silicia*, *Hepar sulph.* and the *Bromine*

Case VI.—1889.—Mr. V——, aged 31 years. Service at the Grace hospital.

Injured in his planing mill. A 1x3 in. scantling thrown from a saw penetrated the abdomen. Removed to hospital where I at once operated.

Intestines protruded. Left testicle and cord with bruised veins containing clots lay high up on the abdomen. The wood penetrated the lumbar muscles behind. Small bowel ruptured in one place and peritoneal coat torn in many places. Intestines repaired with fine silk Lambert and Lambert-Czerney sutures.

Clots turned out, veins tied off and excised from cord, testicle replaced, peritoneum and lumbar muscles repaired. Longest glass drain for a few hours then complete closure. Dressings raised for the first on the tenth day when wound was healed.

After first twenty-four hours patient was entirely comfortable.

No pus. Dressings not stained after removal of tube.

Case VII.—1887.—Eli S——, aged 30 years.—Ligation of the common iliac for immense aneurism of external iliac, resulting from a shot wound. The ball entered under Pouparts ligament.

I reported this case by request at the meeting of the state society for 1888, when Dr. Walsh moved that the society pass a resolution noting the importance of the success—it being the thirteenth success in the world and Dr. Wyeth and myself the only living operators.

Although the report showed the immense wound

thirteen inches long, it closed without drainage and the dressings remained in situ until the wound was healed, namely the twenty-first day.

The meeting was in Detroit and many physicians present had witnessed the operation and followed the case. I, of course, attributed the result to the strictly antiseptic method.

Instead of passing a complimentary resolution, some one set the ball rolling by asking if such treatment was Homeopathic, to which I simply responded: "I am not an Homeopathic surgeon."

Case VIII.—1881.—At Oakland County Hospital, Michigan, an aged suicide was admitted with a cut throat, which had been sutured with silk two days before, and the man brought ten miles in a wagon.

The wound was suppurating and gaping. The trachea and oesophagus had been cut clean off, but the latter had not been sutured. I sutured it so as not to leave a stitch opening in the oesophagus, using the finest silk. I then closed the trachea with the finest silver suture but put in a deep horse hair drain on each side. The case did well and healed, but there was pus for a long time where the drains were, requiring scraping and the actual cautery.

Case IX.—1886.—Mrs. A. P——, aged 82 years.—Enormous lymph adenoma developed under the deep cervical fascia with a pendulous portion terminating below the right breast. Dr. Gunn had attempted its removal when small, but advised that no further effort be made on account of the vessels penetrating it. The tumor was ulcerating and making life very miserable. There were rows of enlarged veins the size of a finger over the surface. The boundaries were those of the cervical fascia. The old lady called it her baby and it was large enough to be sure.

Now I removed that tumor, tying all veins twice and cutting between them, going down at the angle of the jaw and securing the carotid. The external jugular was in the growth and three fingers could be passed into it. I tied the vein just above the clavicle and completed the operation.

This was the most extensive dissection I have seen on the living, exposing vertebræ, trachea, œsophagus and the muscles of the neck completely.

The incisions were so planned that when brought together one line ran from mastoid to clavicle, another from clavicle to acromio-clavicular articulation, a third leading part way up to the chin.

And yet all of these wounds were closed with a single long drain of one hundred horse hairs, ten in a bundle, one bundle removed every day, when the wound was uncovered healed, and dressings hardly stained.

Case X.—1891.—Grace Hospital. Mrs. G——, aged 51 years, widow, slight, feeble, supposed ovarian cyst. Made diagnosis of suppurating kidney, which was removed by abdominal nephrectomy. Nine pints of pus, a seven-pronged calculus weighing over six ounces. Ureter size of a finger stitched into external wound after thorough irrigation through the bladder. Both layers of peritoneum sutured. Dressing removed and wound healed without pus on twelfth day.

Case XI.—R. S——, aged 40 years, suffered from intestinal obstruction, that had persisted twelve days. It was thought that the absence of a temperature indicated that the obstruction was functional.

The condition of patient was urgent but he was sent by train to hospital where my diagnosis was confirmed by abdominal section and removal of an immense intestinal stone by incision of the small intestine.

I closed intestine in ordinary way and stitched a bit of omentum over the wound, and then fastened the omentum to the abdominal wall at lower angle of wound. About the fifth day there was a rise of temperature and on uncovering the wound a dark blush. I had used tension sutures and one of the plates had cut off the suture and there was oozing between the wound surfaces.

All sutures were removed and the wound irrigated with bichloride solution 1-4000 and thoroughly dried. Stich holes were also irrigated and all surfaces scraped. The wound was now drawn together as follows, viz: Silk rope, fretted out at one end, was secured to the wall by collodion. One piece on each side of wound, when tied properly, drew the wound evenly together.

The wound was then left until the twentieth day when the dressing was removed unsoiled and the wound healed.

I omitted to say that three deep sutures were passed.

Case XII.—1892.—Mrs. ——, aged 48 years, formerly attempted operation by Prof. Dennis, at Bellevue Hospital, N. Y. The patient came with immense ventral hernia, which I consented to operate upon, assisted by the house staff of Harper's Hospital, Detroit.

The longest incision had been made and the whole line had given way.

She had suffered from vomiting for six weeks at Bellevue and had worn a drain.

As the intestines were unruly they were put back and a flat gauze pad kept in front of them while perhaps twenty sutures were passed from above, and the ends in the bite of forceps held the abdomen closed for that distance.

Now with the pad over the intestines I had no idea of getting into a gut, but the unexpected occurred. It seems that a knuckle of bowel had come up by the drain in the New York operation, and was fixed in the mass I was cutting away with scissors—*outside the peritoneum.* The scissors opened it nearly two inches at one stroke. I at once closed it, doing my best to get it clean. No pus, no temperature, no discomfort and a perfect result. Dressings not raised until wound was healed—about twentieth day.

Case XIII.—1891.—Donald Mc———, aged 19 years. Suffering from multiple tuberculosis and a suppurating knee. Sent home to die from hospital. Came into my service at Grace Hospital in a deplorable condition. Hectic — emaciation — bed sores. Drained knee and used continuous irrigation. After a week made thigh amputation. Stump closed and dressed by antiseptic method. Wound healed and dressings unstained eighteenth day. Steady gain in weight. Patient had Koch's Lymph—one of the first in America.

Afterward he had metacarpal and tarsal resections; also elbow and two ribs were resected.

He is the picture of health today, and with an artificial limb he looks marvelously well.

My colleague, Dr. LeSeuire, did the resections in this case.

Case XIV.—1890.—Willie S———, aged 14 years. Patient had tuberculous ostitis and arthitis followed by suppuration of ankle and knee joints. When removed to Grace Hospital from another institution he had large bedsores and septicemia. He was a private patient of Dr. S. H. Knight's, who asked me to look after him during his absence in the east.

The patient failed so rapidly that I amputated his thigh—operating at night. It seemed that life de-

pended upon this recourse, and the healing of the wound without pus I believe could not have resulted from anything less than chemical antisepsis—particularly in preparing the limb.

Over and over again the limb was scrubbed with soap and water, but it was not until ether and alcohol were employed that we could get clear of the ointments, poultices and dermal scales that adhered to the skin. We got typical union.

Case XV.—1879.—J. M——, aged 19 years.—Was hit on left leg by a frozen horse ball and after two or three days his leg was swollen and very painful and he became delirious.

He was brought to the county hospital to die in the fourth week of his illness.

He was in an opium stupor, T. 105.3° F., R. 46., P. 140. Over the entire chest were fine moist rales.

The limb was two or three times the size of its fellow and swollen to the hip; below the knee it pitted on pressure and the shaft of the tibia could be moved from the upper epiphysis which was obviously separated from it. The limb was bandaged. The treatment was free incision to the bone, the length of the shaft of the tibia; removal of bandages; the suspension of the limb and continuous irrigation with salt water, a teaspoonful to the pint.

Internally he got *Silicia* and *Phosphorus* 30. Nothing else. He got on well. In a few weeks he was around with crutches and finally his consent having been obtained, the entire shaft of tibia was removed periosteally, the remaining periosteum reproducing a very good plate of bone.

He is a coupe driver in this city, and in walking nothing wrong would be noticed; but on a run he shows the hop, skip and jump gait. There was limited suppuration in this case.

Case XVI.—1892.—A ward case at Grace Hospital was brought in unconscious with labored breathing, livid countenance, contracted pupils and profuse cold sweat. After reaction the head was shaved and prepared and several buttons of bone were removed from over the left parietal lobe of the cerebrum. At that point the internal table was fractured and a spicule of bone had penetrated an inch or more into the brain.

There was also a fractured thigh. The patient became conscious after the operation and notwithstanding his filthy condition when brought in, his wounds healed without pus, and he made a good recovery—thanks to rigid chemical antisepsis.

Case XVII.—1892.—Mrs. ———, Seattle, Wash.—Inoperable cancer of rectum. Lumbar colotomy. Gut opened in circular direction and stitched to skin margin. No pus. Silk-worm suture.

Case XVIII.—1887.—Child aged five years.—Encepholocele the size of lemon. Rigid chemical antisepsis. Clamp and elastic ligature. Brain tissue hardened with alcohol dressing. Recovery. No pus. Child learned to walk and became like other children. Other cases in the family all terminated fatally.

Case XIX.—1878.—Mrs. B——, aged 65 years.—Got four pills of *Belladonna* by error of druggist, who put it up for twenty grains of dandelion extract.

The old lady took one and soon was deadly sick. On the eighth day found her with multiple abscess of right parotid and superficial gangrene. Treated by incision and Dr. Von Tagen's *Bromine* method.

Finally the entire gland had to be extirpated and the vessels ligated.

There was considerable suppuration of the wound due to inefficient antiseptic measures of that time. She regained sight and health and is still living.

Case XX.—1891.—Frank ———, an attache of the Grace Hospital, had an obturator dislocation of the left femur of ten years' standing.

Formerly it was not painful, but for a year it had pained him more and more and finally it became very bad.

At the operation the head of the bone was found carious and was removed external to the anatomical neck.

A surface was gouged away to receive the cut surface of the femur and the bone kept in place by fine platinum wire and silk worm gut.

Then with his consent I removed fourteen strips of skin twelve inches long for use in a case of lost scalp.

He was put into an immovable dressing and into a specially designed bed.

There was no suppuration under rigid chemical antisepsis.

The patient began using this artificial joint six months after and now walks about town without a cane.

In paper No. IV I hope to complete perhaps one hundred cases after the style of this report, furnishing some salient features to enforce the bald statement of facts.

And in a subsequent paper I will present in a more conventional way, a claim to originality or priority in devising, advising and executing what I believe to be the first operation for removal of the vermiform appendix.

In this work I must ask the indulgence of the profession for the style of these reports.

A LAPAROTOMY FOR HEPATIC ABSCESS.

By F. P. GREEN, M. D., Memphis, Tenn.

Early in August of 1893 I was called to a small town in Mississippi, located thirty miles from Memphis, to see Wm. M——, aged 35, who presented the following history: For three years he had had frequent attacks of pain in the right side with fever and jaundice, which would last from three days to weeks, during which time he had to take *Morphine* until now he was taking about four grains a day. The last attack had lasted six weeks. His physician gave him large doses of *Mercury* together with a tonic, telling him to go to work. Becoming dissatisfied he called in another doctor, a young man of bright promise. He in turn called me into the case. Having had a history of the case I took my aspirator with me on my first visit.

Arriving at the house I found my suspicions confirmed and diagnosed hepatic abscess. Upon plunging an aspirator needle into the liver I was enabled to draw off two ounces of pus. I left there expecting to return and operate. But the patient would not consent to it. Ten days later I returned, drew off a quart of pus, left my aspirator with the doctor to use as necessary which he did once, removing about a quart more of pus. On the 16th of August I obtained the man's consent to operate and went there prepared to do a laparotomy.

After the usual preliminaries for a septic work the patient was anesthetized and placed on the table. He had changed very much since I first saw him; in fact was nothing but skin and bones. Assisted by Drs. W. A. Dobbins, L. M. Maples and J. C. Wilkinson, I proceeded by making an incision five inches long extending from the eleventh rib downwards on a

line two inches to the right of the nipple, exposing an enormously enlarged liver. Carefully packing sponges into the wound around the liver, I inserted a needle and evacuated a quart of pus. Then with a knife I enlarged the opening in the liver to three inches. Imagine my surprise when a perfect deluge of pus came out. Fully six quarts in all was removed. I then washed out the cavity with sterilized water and introduced a drainage tube of large size, stitched the liver fast to the peritoneum with catgut, and closed up the wound. The patient stood the operation very well. Everything went along nicely, he gained strength and appetite and bade fair to recover until the thirteenth day after the operation when the attending physician concluded he would break him off from the *Morphine* and suddenly discontinued it. The poor man begged and cried for it but the doctor was firm for forty-eight hours when the patient began to sink. The doctor then saw his mistake and sought to correct it but too late. His vitality had gone so low his life went out, died on the very threshold of recovery, a monument to correct surgery, a martyr to an over-zealous attendant. He honestly believed it his duty to cure the patient of the *Morphine* habit or kill him in the attempt. It has been a good lesson to me. I shall never do a laparotomy where I cannot direct the after treatment of the case to the finish.

DR. GREEN'S CASE OF LAMINECTOMY.

By JAMES G. GILCHRIST, A. M., M. D., Iowa City.
Prof. Surgery, Homeopathic Department University of Iowa.

The Century for April 15th contains a very interesting report by Dr. F. P. Green of an operation on the arches of two cervical vertebræ, but which nevertheless calls for a word or two of comment. Of course the fact must be recognized that no one should presume to criticise a case he has not seen, the most acurate verbal or written report being inadequate to give a perfect history or description. Nevertheless, there are two points on which I wish to comment very briefly. First, why operate at all on a case of caries? Second, to note that the operation is a very old one as to the spine as a whole, but possibly unique in the region he was concerned in.

It is now many years since I have made an operation for caries and as long as my present methods continue to give satisfaction shall not do so. No operation for caries can be considered curative that stops short of the removal of the whole bone. The curette, gouge, or partial excision can scarcely fail to leave some foci, and it is not seldom that such cases return for another treatment, often more than once. The well-known "pepsin" treatment, for obvious reasons, does what instrumental treatment cannot hope to do, penetrating every nook and cranny, and removing all carious melting. The preparation of this remedy in our hospital is, I think, the orthodox formula, viz:

Pepsin, scales or powder ½ dr.
Distilled water (90° F.) 4 oz.
Hydro-chloric acid, 15 drops.

The mixture is injected at the above temperature, in quantities to be determined by circumstances.

While nothing, of course, in therapeutics, not Homeopathic to the condition can be curative, yet this "pepsin" treatment does not fall under that head, entirely at least, its action being purely physiological, and the result almost certain unless the amount of carious bone to be removed is enormous.

Now as to the rarity of the operation. We find accounts of it in Velpeau's classical work (vol. 11, p. 737), Molysigne (Operative Surgery, p. 208), Stephen Smith (Operative Surgery, p. 137), the American System of Surgery (p. 563), and many others. I do not find many references to excision of the arches of the cervical spine, it is true, but the operation is one of rank and standing, even though only lately put there. There are cases given by Velpeau running back to 1822, but the mortality was formerly very large, so that it is only within the last dozen years or so that it has been accorded recognition. Removal of portions of the laminæ for fracture has often been done, and with good results. In short, on page 563 the American Text Book has this to say: "Of late years resection of portions of the spine has been employed with increasing frequency. * * * The observations are now sufficiently numerous to show that even extensive excisions do not greatly or permanently weaken the spine, etc., etc."

Pray do not suppose me hypercritical; nothing can be further from my desire. Dr. Green's work is creditable, and a cause for pride in our art; but a word of comment seems needed now and then, from the fact that many are forgetting in their enthusiasm for the *art* that there is a *science* in surgery, and also one in therapeutics, which we are in danger of overlooking.

Gynecology.

PLASTIC SURGERY OF THE VAGINA.

By J. D. BURNS, M. D., Grundy Center, Iowa.

Among the many good things in the Medical Century is Dr. Green's article on the "Plastic Surgery of the Vagina," in the January 1st number.

The technique of his operation for the repair of a lacerated perineum is the most satisfactory I have yet seen; in fact it meets all the requirements in restoring the anatomy of the parts, thus restoring the muscular action of the pelvic floor, also the wedge shape of the perineal body, which is requisite to the normal function of the body.

There is only one additional suggestion that I would make and that is in the repair of the complete rupture of the perineum, which, to my mind, would improve the operation and rob it of some of the terrors of the "American operation," making the operation less severe and much easier of performance, and in cases where the rectum is not diseased, aside from the rupture, a more desirable operation. It is this: Instead of "doing the American," in order to restore the gut, freshen the edges of the torn gut and with a medium sized cat-gut run a continuous suture from the upper end of the tear to the verge of the anus; then with a spud or the handle of a scalpel loosen the torn ends of the sphincter and co-apt them accurately with not less than four large cat-gut sutures, deeply inserted, allowing them to dip down into the mucous membrane already sutured, thus strengthening the seam; you have now a foundation which is to be builded upon by the essential part of the Green operation, which I shall take the liberty to call it, viz: *The buried sutures restoring the perineum to its natural wedge shape.* After which the vaginal mucous membrane and the skin on the outside are each sutured as per cut.

I can attest to the value of this operation, having performed it in two cases since the appearance of Dr. Green's article, and with perfect results; in one case after a rupture of sixteen years standing and proci-

dentia uteri and no control of the rectum, rendering life a miserable burden indeed. Aside from this suggestion, which may not improve it much, the technique of Dr. Green's operation is perfect and should receive the hearty commendation of the profession.

FIBROID TUMOR COMPLICATING PREGNANCY.

By T. L. BROWN, M. D., Galion, Ohio.

The report of the interesting case of the editor of the Medical Century of hysterectomy for fibro myoma with the complication of pregnancy with the statement that only twenty cases are reported in medical literature prompts me to report a case occurring in the practice of Dr. J. H. Kochendafer, an intelligent old school physician and surgeon in this city and the operator in this case.

The case occurred in January, 1893, and as no notes were taken at the time the report will necessarily be from memory. Mrs. G——, aged about thirty-two, the mother of one child about twelve years of age; an indefinite history of headache, severe pelvic and vesical distress for about one and one-half years, but received no medical attention until Dr. K. was called to prescribe for supposed threatened abortion. He found the pelvis occupied by a hard, resisting mass and could not reach the cervix uteri; but recognizing the gravity of the case asked for counsel, when Dr. Jennie Allen, of Chicago, who was spending the winter in the city, and the writer were called. The labor pains were severe; we anesthetized the patient and endeavored to locate the cervix uteri that we might bring it to the vaginal axis and dilate and empty the womb of its contents; this we found impossible to do. Meanwhile the patient was becoming exhausted, the severe character of the pains, the rapid loss of strength and the earnest solicitations of the patient deciding us to resort to an immediate laparotomy; although it was the middle of a cold winter's night, the house was small, it was impossible to make the room as warm as we desired and the surroundings were not such as to delight the heart of the modern antiseptic surgeon, we proceeded to operate.

After making such antiseptic preparations as were possible under the circumstances the abdomen was opened and a tumor revealed in the wall of the uterus; there were but few adhesions and it was quickly lifted out of the abdominal cavity, the broad ligaments were ligated and cut, and tumor and uterus removed with but little loss of blood. Before the toilet of the abdomen could be completed the patient began to show signs of collapse and rapidly sank. The tumor measured, as nearly as I can remember, nine inches in length and about five inches in breadth and weighed over five pounds and was quite regular in its outlines. It was interstitial in character and involved the upper two-thirds of the wall of the uterus; the lower segment, the part not involved in the growth, contained a three-month's fœtus.

I would not suggest that the presence of pregnancy in any way complicated the operative technique of the case but it was no doubt the exciting cause of the uterine contractions at that time and greatly reduced the strength of the patient before operative measures were resorted to.

INFANTILE MENSTRUATION—A CASE.

By F. P. GREEN, M. D., Memphis, Tenn.

On January 27th, last, I was called to attend Mrs. H——, aet 23, a primipara in confinement. She was taken with labor pains at five o'clock P. M. No progress being made, at two o'clock I applied the forceps in the superior straight and in a half hour delivered her of a twelve-pound girl baby. There was not over a half teacupful of liquor amnii in the uterus and the cord was only ten inches long. This materially interfered with the delivery of the child, and to add to the trouble the baby's shoulders were so broad that I was compelled to tear the perineum before I could complete the delivery. When I came to deliver the placenta I found it adherent over a large area of its attachment, complicated with hour-glass contraction. Having my patient under chloroform I introduced my hand into the uterus, overcame the contraction and delivered the placenta. Everything went along nicely until the sixteenth day when I was called to see the baby. Examination revealed both breasts swollen and full, from which I milked about two tablespoonfuls of milk. The nurse called my attention to the napkin she had just removed from the baby which was stained with blood. Upon examination I found it came from the vagina. This flow was tolerably profuse and lasted for six days, the child losing fully a teaspoonful of blood in twenty-four hours. I told the parents to give themselves no concern about it and let the matter rest. In twenty-eight days the same flow occurred again, lasted six days and ceased. Since then there has been no return. The child has been in perfect health all the time since its birth and seemed to suffer no inconvenience from the trouble.

Materia Medica.

A PROVING OF NUX MOSCHATA.

By JULIA F. HAYWOOD, M. D., 612 West Ave., Rochester, New York.

A few months ago I was called hurriedly to see a young woman who was supposed to be suffering from the poisonous effects of some drug. The maid assured me in great agitation that "Miss Lottie was dying." Hurrying in, a few steps away, I found Miss Lottie pale and trembling, with incoherent speech and unnatural manner. Questioning brought forth the fact that she had grated the whole of two nutmegs, made a generous amount of tea, and had drunk all of it for the relief of painful menstruation. An emetic was administered at once, but was not efficient in avoiding all the deleterious effect of the drug, although vomiting promptly ensued. The patient was very pale, weak and trembling; there was loss of motion and sensation. She could not walk unless assisted, and altogether presented a picture closely allied to the semi-stupor of a narcotic or an intoxicant. The head would drop forward and when attempting to speak thoughts could not be expressed, or wrong words would be chosen. For a moment an unconscious condition would supervene, and on being aroused from the semi-stupor she would look about with a wandering, dazed expression. If questioned she could slowly collect her thoughts and make relevant replies, but with a most evident effort. The pulse was small, slow and weak and although pale she complained of her head throbbing and pulsating.

In a few days she entirely recovered, the loss of memory and impairment of motion being the most persistent symptoms.

Two other cases have since come under my notice; the first, or in fact — both, with the avowed intention of terminating an unwelcome pregnancy. In the first of the last cases the woman became frightened and summoned assistance before noteworthy effects had occurred. In the second instance some hours had elapsed between the taking of the infusion, and the time of my visits. She was then very weak, ghastly pale, had fainted once, and thought she was dying. With this thought of death she did not exhibit the least fear or solicitude, and indeed was strikingly indifferent and apathetic. The loss of memory was not marked but she was slow of speech and comprehension. What was most characteristic of her condition, however, was the marked acceleration of the heart's action. The heart was beating 160 per minute, the pulsations being plainly visible through the clothing. This condition of the heart lasted longer than any other ill effect of the *Nux moschata*, and at times, after slight exertion, the rate of beating would be 180 per minute. She was two weeks in recovering from the prostration incident to her, as she had taken quite an heroic dose.

This remedy ought to prove effective in functional disturbance of the brain, accompanied by loss of memory, confusion of thought and flashes of unconsciousness; also in nervous palpitation of the heart, with fainting. The remedy might also be suggested for aphasia, hysterical ophonia and amenorrhea. It is the custom in domestic practice to give the nutmeg tea for suppression of the menses, while if the dose be large, menorrhagia of dark, thick blood will ensue. If given this way in the early months of pregnancy miscarriage can be produced. Convulsions have occurred with other provers, the spasms being both clinic and tonic. Burt mentions a man, who having taken four nutmegs, the whole nervous system seemed overwhelmed. He remained in a state of coma for three days, on emerging from which continued fever set in with at length paralysis of all limbs. All three persons had also extreme dryness of the mouth. *Cactus* relieved the heart symptoms of the third patient.

MATERIA MEDICA MELANGE.

BY W. A. DEWEY, M. D., 170 WEST 54TH ST., NEW YORK.

Rhus.— In the rheumatism of this drug the prominent bones, especially the cheek bones, are sensitive to the touch. SHELTON.

Calcarea brom.—Dr. Deschere recommends this remedy in the 2x potency for the sleeplessness of rachitic children of the *Calcarea* type.

Natrum sulph. has a dry cough with soreness in chest and an all-gone feeling which is relieved by sitting up and pressing the chest with both hands, like *Bryonia*. Pressure relieves both the pains and the gone feeling. CLOSE.

Chininum sulph. has as key notes great weakness, especially of the lower extremities, pain in the spine on pressure, and, of course, ringing in the ears, which is apt to be worse on the left side.

Coffea[6] cured a case of facial neuralgia which had lasted sixteen years. It was right sided; came on so suddenly that the patient would cry out, and it seemed as if each hair of the right side of the head was sensitive. It was worse by emotions, wiping the face, chewing, and by lying on the right side; better by light massage. The electric shock-like character of the pain was a specially indicating feature for *Coffea*.

Thuja.—The following case is of interest, showing the action of *Thuja* in certain uterine growths. A woman of thirty suffered from uterine hemorrhage which was treated in vain by an Allopath. Moreover, from excessive use of *Hydrastis* and *Digitalis* preparations, the stomach became so deranged that the simplest food could not be borne. These together brought the patient so low that she became dropsical, the legs were swollen to twice their size, and the abdominal cavity contained several litres of fluid. The heart's action became so weak that only the strongest cardiac stimulant—such as *Strophanthus, Camphor*, etc., had any effect. The Allopath saw hope only in operative procedures, and this, owing to the great weakness of the patient, seemed but problematical. At the last moment, Dr. Donner, a Homeopath, was called. He diagnosed a polypoid growth in the mucous membrane of the uterus and urgently advised operation. He ordered *Thuja*[6], and owing to the weakness, a few doses of *China* were given. In a few days the hemorrhage ceased. The accumulations of fluid were excreted through the kidneys. The woman improved rapidly and in a few weeks left her bed. *Thuja* was continued for several months, for the monthly hemorrhage at the periods continued considerable. In about four months a polypus was cast out of the uterus with a pedicle several centimetres long, which was easily snipped off, but which would have come away of itself if left alone.—*Monatsblätter*.

Raphanus.—The symptom of no emission of flatus by mouth or anus for a long time is a most valuable one for this drug. It is a remedy for brownish diarrhea.

Eucalyptus glob. is one of the foremost remedies in catarrh. Its symptoms are profuse discharge from the nose with soreness and heat in nasal passages and throat, and the patient, like *Sulphur*, takes cold easily. He talks through his nose and there is great languor and weakness in morning and restlessness at night.

Asterias is a remedy for acne having small puncta with black tips and small red bases. *Kali bich.* has more extensive inflammation, and more like little boils. *Eugenia* has pimples in face which are painful—worse during menstrual period.

Cicuta clinically has eruptions about corners of the mouth which begin like honey-colored crust with burning and itching. The crusts extend to chin and are accompanied by swollen glands. ALLEN.

Practice of Medicine.

VESICAL IRRITATIONS.

BY E. D. AYRES, M. D., LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

In the CENTURY of April 15, we have another med-i-cuss trying to ignore and frown upon the Homeopathic law of cure and to job us off onto a "just for luck," or at best, routine method. True, we must "lay the axe at the root of the tree instead of trying to lop off some of its branches." But when you "sure enough" find the "root of the tree," a little potent-

ized hatchet may beautifully supply the place of the "axe." He speaks of the "costly errors to be led into by symptomological prescribing, the true pathology of the case being ignored." Again he asks, "how can we ignore the very disease itself and limit ourselves to its manifestations?" How do we know disease, and each kind of disease, except through their manifestations, the plainest of which it would seem would be the pathological ones.

The totality of the symptoms make up the case either for diagnosis or the application of the law of cure.

The true similimum having been found, you will find that pathology also has been included in your investigation.

"*Cantharis* fails in bladder cases oftener than it cures."

Yes! and that probably is true of all our remedies if prescribed (after the manner of Allopathy) for the name of the disease.

"*Aconite* would often give better satisfaction than *Cantharis.*"

Yes! if it were an *Aconite* case, and no, if it were a *Cantharis* case and vice versa.

Yes! I would prescribe *Cantharis* where "deep seated inflammation of the bladder" were present, provided I found it the similimum, but not without.

I would not expect the law of cure through the similimum to overcome bladder irritaton from a retroverted uterus, or from the irritation of an urethral carancula.

I have known the former to be cured by the similimum plus the posture treatment, and the latter by the external and internal use of *Belladonna,* or *Thuja,* or *Eucalyptus.*

But, practically, if one, through hurry or any other difficulty of finding the similimum, wants a "honey" in bladder troubles, whether acute or chronic, or whether or not with ropy mucous, let him use *Magnesia phos.* 6x. and if fond of alternating use the best similimum he can pick, whether in acute cases he finds it to be *Aconite, Cantharis, Cannabis, Lycopodium, Nux* or *Gelsemium,* or in chronic cases, *Chimaphilla, Sepia, Sarsaparilla* or *Carbonate of Lithia.*

If there is also increase in the flow of urine, indicating kidney trouble, then another tissue remedy, *Kali phos.*, will lend you wonderful aid. Somebody stole my instrument for washing out the bladder, but as all the use I made of it was to loan it, I don't miss it.

CENTURY CULLINGS AND COMMENTS.

DATE SEED IN THE URETHRA.

A case is reported where a date seed was found in the urethra. The conclusion was that the seed had sloughed from the vermiform appendix into the bladder and had become lodged in passing through the urethral canal. The explanation seems plausible. Last year Dr. Crutcher, of Chicago, reported that in one of his cases he had found a large date seed in a gangrenous appendix, the specimen measuring nearly three-quarters of an inch in length and a quarter of an inch in diameter.

THE MURPHY BUTTON CONDEMNED.

Prof. Senn agrees with Keen in condemnation of the Murphy button as a means of establishing intestinal anastomosis. The objections to the button seem to be founded upon correct surgical principles. There is no guarantee whatever that the button will not slough through the tissues, and its size is always against it. Prof. W. D. Foster, of Kansas City, reports a case upon which he operated to establish a connection between an occluded gall bladder and the intestine, in which the button is now lodged in the former instead of passing on through the latter. It is likely that the button in its present location will form the nucleus for a tremendous accretion in the future.

LOVE AND TEMPERATURE.

Sydney Smith says that "It is imposible to feel affection above 78° or below 20° Fahr." We do not know how true this great philosopher's observation may be, but there is no doubt that freaks and crimes of all sorts increase as the thermometer rises. An authority states that in India forty-eight per cent. of crimes of violence disappear during cold weather. That may be true of India, yet in America a cold car, a chilly waiting-room and a poor furnace are things that produce homicidal tendencies quicker than hot weather and whiskey combined.

There ought to be some legal method of restraining sexual perverts before their atrocious crimes shock the world. The awful case at Memphis is still fresh in mind, and from the newspaper accounts of the tragedy it seems that Chicago has furnished another horrible case of the kind. A mail carrier was shot down while on his route at the corner of Clark and Madison streets at noon of March 28. The assassin when prevented from turning the weapon upon himself, wept and wailed, and between hysteric sobs told of his great love for his victim and of his regret at not being able to join him in heaven. It is said that the murderer had been in the habit of writing affectionate notes to his victim and had addressed him in terms of endearment. Sexual perversion may not be a crime, but it is a misfortune of which some legal cognizance should be taken at once.

A SAMPLE OF ALLOPATHIC LIBERALITY.

On page 376 of the current volume of the *Journal of the American Medical Association,* Dr. Henry Bixby Hemenway says:

"It is a remarkable fact that though this sect (Homeopathy), has been in existence a hundred years, it has made no contributions to science. It has, perhaps, added a few drugs to the Pharmacopœia, but its disciples have never published a single discovery in anatomy, histology or pathology."

On page 452 of the same journal, we find, from the pen of H. L. Dunning, M. D., of Indianapolis, the following:

"Having had my attention called (directed is what is meant) to Pratt's modification of operation [hysterectomy], I procured copies of the Medical Century, ['an international journal of Homeopathic medicine, surgery and collateral sciences'] containing several articles by the author of the method [professor of surgery in the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College] and others who had observed his work."

Dr. Emery Lanphear, the celebrated surgeon of Kansas City, writes to say that he recently performed the Pratt hysterectomy after the methods in vogue by the old, very old school had resulted in utter failure, and that his result was surprisingly gratifying.

The Pratt hysterectomy is only one of the

hundreds of good things that originate with scientific practitioners.

SAFETY-PIN SEVENTEEN YEARS IN THE INTESTINES.

Dr. J. W. Irwin, of Louisville, Ky., reports a remarkable case wherein a woman was relieved of a safety-pin that had been swallowed by her seventeen years before. Her usual complaint was sharp, cramping pains in the sigmoid flexure and once in a while in the colon. Dr. Irwin found the pin lodged in the rectum and removed it. The sufferer experienced immediate relief.

LOCATION OF THE APPENDIX.

A well known surgeon says that the appendix runs up in one-fourth of all cases, that it is curled behind the æcum in one-fifth of all cases, and that it extends into the pelvis in 14 per cent. of all cases. The average length (post mortem) is in males three and one-half inches and in females three and one-tenth inches.

MEDICAL CENTURY CLINIC.

Carbuncle—Clinical—On March 30th a gentleman just returned from the Pacific coast called on me in passing to show the vestiges of a carbuncle and the commencement of another which in five days' time measured six and one-half inches across the neck and four and one-half vertically and situated upon the nape. He had fever the day before, was now in an intermission, but at night-fall sent for me as he had a chill and now fever of 103½, next day 104, third day 102, fourth 101, fifth normal. The fever was remittent, with nausea during the exacerbations; some bilious vomiting and bilious stools, two or three a day. He had *Aconite*, *Belladonna*, *Rhus* and *Ipecac* as indicated as well by the general symptoms as by the angry and erysipelatous appearance of the carbuncle. The fever gone, I went at it with tissue remedies, *Ferrum phos.*, *Calcarea sulph.*, *Silicia*, and for three or four days *Kali mur.*, to cover an itching eruption over his legs and body. Sometimes two of these remedies were alternated as they are not amenable to the laws of single remedy or single dose, since we take in several daily in our food. Linseed poultices were used for ten or twelve days while it was sorest, more, however, as a "tub to the whale," than for any emollient purpose. This carbuncle was not cut or cauterized. Advantage was taken of numerous pustules on the surface (probably one hundred and fifty in number) by gently and gradually enlarging them, to form an exit for pus when formed, as surely it must be. These openings were a variety of sizes—varying from a pinhead to about a 38 caliber. These larger ones afforded means of emptying the center and also of filling the tumor with *Peroxide of hydrogen*. The gentleman went to his office on the 21st of April. There were left some vestiges of the tumor but no discharge.

The only suffering endured in this case after fever left was from the evacuations which were reduced to the minimum by local pressures over the surface with the sides of the blades of an old-fashioned artery forceps. There was never any throbbing or twinging, and no drain upon the system, either from the quantity or quality of the pus, but a constant increase of strength and comfort from the day the fever left.

E. D. AYRES, M. D.

Little Rock, Ark.

Neurology.

THE EFFECT OF OÖPHORECTOMY UPON THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

BY GEORGE H. MARTIN, M. D., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
PROFESSOR OF MENTAL AND NERVOUS DISEASES, HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL COLLEGE.

No subject in medical literature has caused more diversity of opinion both among gynecologists and neurologists than the effect of the removal of the ovaries upon the after-life of the woman. The gynecologists, as a rule, claim that there are no materially bad effects after the immediate recovery from the operation, while the neurologists are inclined to believe, from long experience and observation of cases operated upon, that serious after-effects are produced within a longer or shorter period of time.

As a matter of fact, the gynecologists have not until very recently given the matter of after-effects very serious consideration; they thinking only of the immediate surgical results, and the per cent of recoveries from operations.

Within the past few years many of the leading operators have kept careful statistics of their cases, and from them have drawn conclusions which have been somewhat startling. Since surgical knowledge has made such wonderful advances abdominal section is relatively a safe procedure, and the removal of the ovaries has been advised upon very slight provocations.

A woman of excessively nervous temperament, having suffered much from severe headaches, intense ovarian pains during the menstrual period, with great sensitiveness of the ovaries, with perhaps some enlargement of the organs, was at once advised to have them removed. The theory was that the sensitiveness and enlarged ovaries were probably the cause of the headaches and the general nervous condition. If, it was argued, the ovaries were the cause of the trouble, why not remove them? Upon ordinary grounds if the physician is able to determine the cause of any difficulty it is his duty to remove it, if he is able to do so; therefore, the same argument was used by the surgeon in determining the treatment of diseases of this character, and consequently a great many oöphorectomies were performed, with varying results.

In some asylums oöphorectomy has been performed as a therapeutic agent in the treatment of insanity; but the results have been so disastrous that in some asylums the board of managers have ruled against it and one legal light has gone so far as to declare it a criminal procedure.

Within the past two or three years a change has come over the profession at large, and the operation is certainly not as frequently performed as it formerly was; and if performed at all the gravest symptoms pointing to absolute organic change, either in the uterus or ovaries, must be present. Yet, even today, there is still a great difference of opinion among medical men as to the real effect of this operation.

It is because some of the younger operators, men both able and careful in their work, but ambitious to perform operations of this character, still do so without adequate grounds and without a proper appreciation of the after-effects of such operations, that I present these few thoughts:

It goes without saying, that every organ in the human body is put there for some purpose, and the

whole organism works in harmony only when every organ is present, and in a healthy condition; and it also follows that if an organ be removed from the body, the effect is discernible to a greater or less degree upon all of the remaining organs.

The function of the ovaries, has such a profound effect upon the system, even when the whole organism is in health, that the removal of them must necessarily imply great changes within the system. As the nervous system joins together all parts of the body, and as it is the functional regulator of all organs, upon it the weight of the burden falls, when for any reason the function of an organ is disturbed or destroyed. It may be that the brain itself is affected by these changes, or it may be the spinal cord and nerves are the most disturbed; whichever be the case the disturbances are none the less profound and long-lasting.

Every physician knows of the trials which accompany a young girl before the proper function of the ovaries is established; also the many serious troubles to which a woman in passing through the climacteric is susceptible. It sometimes requires all of our skill to carry our patient safely through these two periods of life. This of itself, goes to show the importance of the organs involved in these changes, and their effect upon the general system. Nature, however, usually manages her affairs with great care, and the majority of women pass through these periods without any serious trouble.

It is only by a great expenditure of nerve force, which is gradually given out, that the system is enabled to weather the storm at these times; but on account of the length of time which it requires for the proper establishment of the function in the beginning, and the perfect recovery after its cessation, the demand upon the nervous system is, fortunately, not so great but that the nerve force can be recuperated fast enough to supply that demand. This is the condition of affairs which exists in the case of a normal, healthy woman. At the best, however, it takes all of the accumulated vitality which the woman has.

Now what would be the result, if in place of the gradual cessation of function of the ovaries, at the proper period of life, a premature menopause is produced by artificial means? There is no better time for nature to perform her duties than the time at which she does them, and if the function of any organ be destroyed while nature still has use for that organ, a risk is taken which may not be fully estimated.

If oöphorectomy be performed when the organ has not been destroyed by disease, the shock upon the system must be necessarily great, on account of the important place that the ovaries hold in the mechanism of the body. A certain amount of energy is generated in the system to provide for the proper conduction of the functions of the various organs; if, however, an organ be removed, the energy for a time is still generated, but is not sent along the proper channels, and therefore, its effects must necessarily manifest themselves upon the general system; and it is this inability to properly re-adjust matters that causes the serious symptoms which we have resulting from this operation.

If an organic change has been going on in the ovaries for a long period of time the after-effect of their removal is not by any means so serious as when they are removed in a comparatively healthy condition, and the reason is this: because the system has had time to re-adjust itself to the changing condition, and nerve energy has not been generated to such a degree as it naturally would have been if the organs were healthy; and, therefore, its superflous energy is not spent upon the general system.

Now let us see what some of the after-effects of the removal of the ovaries might be. Probably the most serious result is melancholia; while excessive nervousness, severe headache and irritability occur to such a degree as to make life almost intolerable in many cases.

In the *Medical News* of December 9th Dr. William Goodell gives an interesting article on this subject. He believes, with Hagar, that the artificial menopause induced by the operation is usually attended by vastly more serious complications than are observed in the natural change of life. Keith states that about 10 per cent. of his patients who recover from the operation suffer from melancholia or other forms of insanity. Dr. Skene, in a most able paper addressed to the members of the American Medico-Psychological Association, says, that he has had occasion to change his opinion radically in the last few years as to the serious results of this operation, and that only upon the gravest symptoms of organic change should it be performed.

Better have your patient die from functional disease than to remove a healthy ovary with the expectation of relieving the trouble.

The men best able to state the after-results of this operation are the superintendents of our insane asylums, for a large number of these cases are sent quietly to them and are lost track of by the physician who performed the operation.

In the insane it is often difficult to tell whether a sensitive and enlarged ovary be due to the insanity, or whether the insanity be due to it. In such cases, an operation of this kind should not be considered, as the chances are that even if the diseased ovary was the cause of the trouble the condition of the nerve system would be so far below par that it would not be able to recover from its effects.

While insanity and general nervousness are some of the effects of this operation there is another condition which we must consider, and most seriously, too.

In the majority of cases the removal of the ovaries causes a complete loss of the sexual feeling, according to the investigation of Imlach's cases in the Woman's Hospital in Liverpool, and thereby produces domestic unhappiness to such a degree that the patient's life is almost unbearable, causing the mind to give way, from this secondary factor.

It is also natural for every healthy woman to wish for children, and the fact of her not being able to bear them, on account of the removal of the ovaries, sometimes leads her to brood over the subject to such a degree that she is wholly unable to attend to the necessary duties of life. We can readily see, therefore, that any of these results are of the greatest moment and should be thought of before undertaking the operation.

Only a short time ago a case came under my observation in which a physician removed both ovaries to relieve severe chronic headaches from which the patient was suffering. The headaches were relieved for three months after the operation, and the surgeon was boasting of his results, and putting to shame some of his brother practitioners who thought the operation unnecessary. About the fourth month, however, the headaches returned with greater severity, and within six months after the operation the patient was a hopeless invalid from them.

I have in the last five years seen many cases who have undergone this operation, who give me a very pitiful story of their sufferings.

Since such men as Goodell, Hagar, Keith and Skene are investigating most carefully this matter, I do not doubt but that all our gynecologists will soon do the same. It is necessary for every physician, so far as possible, to follow out the effects of his treatment upon all cases, whether they be surgical or otherwise, and only by the most careful compilation of the facts obtained from many sources can we arrive at definite conclusions upon any subject.

In these days of brilliant surgery we are apt to forget the after-effects of the operations and consider only the immediate recovery.

It takes sometimes many years for outraged nature to declare herself, and, therefore, it will require many years to decide fully this question. In the meantime it is a good axiom never to outrage nature any more than we have to.

It is claimed by Dr. Pratt that where the uterus and ovaries are removed according to the methods of his operation the terminal nerve filaments supplying these organs are not injured, and, therefore, there is not the liability to reflex irritation and consequent general nervous disturbance as there would be in any other method. As a matter of fact, however, the organs are removed, and the same argument of disturbed function will hold as true in this case as in others; the nerve force having been generated for a particular purpose and not being used for that purpose must expend itself somewhere within the system.

Some may argue that when the organ is removed the nerve force necessary to carry on the functions of this organ will not be generated because it is not required. That is true, in a measure; but as I have said before the period of re-adjustment is the test, and the question is whether the patient will be able to withstand the assault made upon the nervous system. This question should lead gynecologists to consider with great care when about to perform operations of this kind.

Climatology.

THE CLIMATE OF UTAH AND ITS EFFECTS UPON CERTAIN DISEASES.

By J. C. HANCHETT, M. D., Salt Lake City, Utah.

It is probable there is no advice given by physicians to their patients with so much recklessness as in the matter of what climate they should seek in order to receive the greatest benefit. It is certain that there is the widest difference of opinion among physicians as to what constitutes a proper climate for the same individual. This is in part due to false reports from various localities and in part to the fact that the same surroundings do not seem to always produce similar effects upon patients in apparently the same condition.

The only solution of this somewhat complicated climate problem must come through careful investigation and honest reports of the physicians in the various localities which possess some of the elements necessary to a health-giving climate.

That Utah deserves such rank cannot be disputed, and while her valleys and mountains are not in perpetual sunshine, nor do all her inhabitants live to six score years and ten, the average longevity is greater and proportion of sunshine larger than in the greater part of our land.

The climate of any particular region is determined by its latitude, altitude and its proximity to large bodies of water or high mountain ranges. Salt Lake City has nearly the same latitude as San Francisco, Denver and Philadelphia, but by referring to any map giving the lines of equal mean temperature, it will be found that the same isothermal (an average of sixty degrees) which passes through or near Salt Lake City, crosses southern California, southern Tennessee and northern Georgia, and in Europe corresponds to central Spain and Italy. Moreover, this mean annual temperature of sixty degrees for Salt Lake valley is between much more moderate extremes than can be found in most parts of the United States. From the Signal Service record we take the following:

In the course of twenty-five years there were but twenty-one days that the mercury fell below zero, and but four years in which it rose above one hundred; for the year 1893, the lowest temperature was four degrees, the highest 99, with a maximum daily range of but thirty-nine degrees; the average daily range for seventeen years is but twenty degrees.

This equability of temperature can rarely be found excepting on the ocean. The explanation in our region is simple. Salt Lake valley, about one hundred miles in length and forty in width, is protected on the east by the high range of Wasatch mountains, rising from 3,000 to 8,000 feet above the valley, and on the west by the Oquirrh range, not as high but sufficient to keep the winds from the desert to the west from touching us; surrounded as we are by the high mountains, the modifying effect of the great inland sea of Salt Lake, covering 2,000 square miles thoroughly equalizes this distinctly local climate. It is a fact that the blizzards which Manitoba generates to go sweeping over the great plains, reaching from Colorado and Texas to the Atlantic, and from Minnesota to the Gulf, are never known to disturb the tranquility of the Utah atmosphere.

In regard to elevation, Utah furnishes all degrees from 4,000 to 8,000 feet. Salt Lake City is 4,300 and within a distance of twenty-five miles an elevation of 8,000 may easily be reached. The feature which is the most difficult for the system to become accustomed to in a change of climate is the matter of altitude, the dimished air pressure and attenuation of the atmosphere increase the respiration and pulse rate, requiring additional work of these organs; for this reason, sudden change to an extreme altitude is always attended with some danger when these organs are weakened, but at our moderate elevation of 4,000 feet no trouble is experienced by the most delicate and in case a higher altitude is desired, it can be gradually reached without the danger of sudden change.

The average amount of rain-fall for seventeen years as given by the signal service report, is for winter 4.56 inches, spring 6.05, summer 1.92, fall 3.91, a total of 16.44; about the same as Santa Fe and Denver, while in the eastern part of the United States it is forty inches.

Such are the qualities of our Utah climate, expressed mathematically. But this fails to produce any proper conception of our pure mountain air, undisturbed by any forces from beyond the narrow limits of our own valleys, tempered in winter by our great salt water lake, and in summer by the melting snow on the encircling mountains, just the same as a map correct in mathematical exactness cannot

picture the beauties of hills and valleys with their green forests and winding streams.

We are free from the sand storms of New Mexico and Arizona and their excessive summer heat. We have not the rainy season of Southern California and its tiresome sameness of a constant summer. We have not the sudden and severe changes in winter of Denver, exposed as it is to the northern blizzards, nor its greater variation in temperature between night and day. We have the choice of a moderate to a high altitude within easy access; we have the agreeable and beneficial changes from a long summer to a late and pleasant autumn, followed by a mild and sunny winter and short spring; we have a dry mountain climate with a luxuriance of summer foliage; we have at our door salt water bathing and hot sulphur springs; we have a natural mineral spring water, similar to the Manitou, besides the purest of drinking water from the mountain streams. In short, Utah furnishes more of those elements which go to constitute a health resort and fewer of the disadvantages which those climates usually possess than can be found in any high altitude.

The one disease which drives more people than all others from their homes in search of a beneficial climate is consumption, and it is for a large majority of these that Utah can promise most. In the later stages of this disease, however, after too great destruction of the lung tissue has taken place, any change of climate, especially to a high altitude, is detrimental. It is for those cases in the earlier stages, before large cavities have been formed, and while the heart has not been so weakened by the progress of the disease, that the higher altitudes are suited. To such the benefit arises from increase in chest expansion, with its tendency to more completely develop the still healthy lung tissue and bring back to activity the consolidated portions; from the pureness and dryness of the air and its greater absorptive power; from the well known invigorating effect of the rare mountain air and bright sunshine; and from the large proportion of days suitable for the invalid to be in the open air those who are able to avail themselves of the out-door air may come confident of finding great improvement.

Pneumonia is a rare disease in Salt Lake, without doubt on account of the freedom from sudden changes and severe weather.

Asthma is usually cured unless there is emphysema and bronchiectasis in connection. The grip prevailed to a limited extent during the winter of '91, but did not reach us in '90 and has not returned since '91.

Chronic rheumatism is invariably benefitted, if not cured, by our hot sulphur springs, which, if better advertised, would rival the Hot Springs of Arkansas and Dakota. Malarial fever is almost unknown, and typhoid usually runs a mild course.

Organic heart disease is aggravated on account of the increased work required of that organ in the higher altitudes. Bright's disease when unaccompanied with organic heart trouble is much benefited from the fact that in the higher altitudes the skin is more active and the work thrown upon the kidneys lessened, and from a greater freedom from exposure to sudden changes in temperature. Dyspepsia is practically cured by drinking the water from our mineral springs and breathing the pure air from the mountains.

In conclusion I wish to give a special invitation to those physicians who are about to visit Denver to attend the American Institute in June to come to Salt Lake and judge for themselves of the virtues of our climate and beauty of our city.

The Rio Grande Western railroad in connection with the Colorado Midland, the Utah terminal of the Santa Fe system, have arranged to give at this time the excursion rate of $25 (half fare) for the round trip from Denver to Salt Lake. This will take one a distance of 800 miles through the most magnificent scenery of the Rockies, passing Colorado Springs, Manitou Springs at the foot of Pike's Peak, Leadville, Hagerman Pass, the highest point reached by a railroad on the continent, Lake Ivanhoe, at an elevation of 11,000, Glenwood Springs, Castle Gate, Spanish Fork Canon and the fertile valleys of Utah and Salt Lake. Equipped as these roads are with every facility of modern railways for furnishing safety and comfort to their patrons those who avail themselves of this opportunity to see the marvels of the Rocky mountains during this, the loveliest of months, will return home doubly rested by their vacation.

Medical Legislation.

LEGISATION IN MASSACHUSETTS — THE MEDICAL REGISTRATION ACT.

By WILLIAM JAMES, M D., Cambridge.

From the Boston Transcript, March 24, 1894.

[Note.—This article is from the pen of Prof. Wm. James, M. D., of the Harvard University, and is reproduced in the Medical Century as full of solid argument, sound logic and good common sense. It is especially commended to our Examining Board readers for their prayerful consideration.—Ed.]

I have just signed a petition which has been sent me begging our legislature not to pass a bill now pending, of which the purpose is to "regulate" the practice of medicine and surgery. I feel it my duty to express publicly my reasons for this action, and I hope you will accord to me the freedom of your columns.

The bill in question provides that all persons hereafter intending to practice medicine in Massachusetts, and all now practicing without "reputable degrees," must take out a license, failing which they shall be liable to fine or imprisonment, or both. The condition of gaining the license is that they pass an examination "with reference to their knowledge and skill in medicine and surgery" which shall be "satisfactory" to five examiners to be appointed by the governor.

The only avowable reason for such a bill is, of course, the protection of the citizen against unprincipled and unskillful doctors. Even our protective republicanism would hardly aim at special protection for the "graduates of reputable medical schools."

Now, I believe that such a bill should be resisted for three principal reasons.

I. It is too grandmotherly, and goes against the best political habits and traditions of our state.

II. It adds but an infinitesimal degree of security to the citizens' chances of being faultlessly treated when sick.

III. It tends to obstruct the progress of therapeutic knowledge.

Let me take these reasons in succession.

I. Under this head little need be said. The Massachusetts principle has always been to allow freedom of choice in personal matters and to let the citi-

zen bear the consequences. A paternalism so solicitous lest the citizen should not regain his lost health in the best manner as to stand between him and the therapeutic adviser whom he would naturally select would be a grotesque and puerile anomaly in a state where every man has from time immemorial been free to lose his health, and with it his fortune, life and soul, if he pleases, without the state either interfering or giving relief. If the word "sacred" can be applied to any personal right, surely the right to treat one's own body as one chooses may claim the title. The bill limits that sacred right, and violates it so far forth with principles of personal liberty which are the life's breath of our state.

II. To be sure, if one could solidly secure faultless therapeutics by law one might prefer to let the principle of liberty go by the board for that occasion, salving one's conscience by the happiness of the result. But will anyone pretend that this paltry statute can carry us a step towards that consummation? The healing art is not like the apothecary's or plumber's trade, a definite thing where an examination can secure infallibility. A doctor has not first to find a name for his patient's complaint and then a remedy to fit that name, as if he were a locksmith fitting a lock with a key. Were his duties as plain as that, an examination might insure his adequacy. But in every delicate case it is no mere name that comes before him, but a human being so uniquely compounded that he has never seen the exact mate of him before. The doctor must guess, divine, experiment and make mistakes. The *serious* therapeutic inadequacy which the population of Massachusetts, taken in bulk, is exposed to is the inadequacy of the regularly educated profession. They are as good as men with such a task can be, but the task in its totality is still beyond their powers, and the results are at the patient's cost. What doctor does n't have to shudder daily at the treatment he finds people undergoing at his "educated colleague's" hands? What doctor's memory doesn't keep a dark storehouse of his own fatal or all but fatal injustices, misjudgments and mistakes? What doctor doesn't constantly meet patients for whose case he immediately feels that he will be no match, simply because their personality is not in tune with his, and their personality, after all, is what he has to treat? Besides, what doctor doesn't know that our schools graduate every year men utterly unworthy morally of either authority or intimate trust? With this enormous mass of unfitness and malpractice always inevitably with us, why should the State be so terribly concerned to suppress a few advertising scoundrels, a few Homeopaths of the single-book-and-medicine-case sort, now growing extinct, (Sic! Ed.) or a few mind-curers who may culpably ignore the body's obvious needs?

Surely a maternalism so solicitous ought to pass a far more formidable set of laws than this one, if she would maintain consistency. For instance, the most incompetent doctor for a man is notoriously the man himself. Even the graduates of reputable medical schools send for a colleague when they fall ill. But in a State where illustrated medical advertisements are the chief support of the newspapers, and the citizen buys the bottles and consumes their contents at his unchartered will, and with impunity, so far as the law goes, it is truly "saving at the spigot and wasting at the bung" to try to shield him from himself in any such half-way fashion as this act proposes. He may not go to the unlicensed doctor, but he still will be fascinated by the advertisements and the portraits of the regenerated beings therein; he still will want the stuff that cured the man of whom his neighbor tells; he still will ask the druggist to advise him what to buy; he still will be left to experiment on himself with no fear of the wrath of judges or of fine or prison in his eyes.

In short, no law and no combination of laws can give real medical security to the citizen. The insecurity that this law would do away with, being an insignificant part of the general sum of insecurity, is not worth gaining at the price of interference with the spontaneous equilibrium of demand and supply in matters therapeutical.

III. This brings me to my third point. The suppression of certain practitioners will hinder the progress of therapeutic knowledge as a whole. And, to be concrete, I will confine myself to a class of diseases with which my occupation has made me somewhat conversant. I mean diseases of the nervous system and the mind. Hardly any medical subject has made greater progress in the past twenty years than that of neurology; and in no department of therapeutics have as many new agents been discovered as in the nervine field.

But the gain to science has been almost exclusively in the way of anatomy, symptoms, classification and diagnosis; and the hypnotics, anesthetics, sedatives and stimulants of various sorts discovered, although brilliantly effective over momentary states, bear little relation to the patient's permanent cure. There is no more epigramatic instance of that combined greatness and littleness of man's mind, by which Pascal was so much struck, than this particular juxtaposition of wisdom and impotence, than this capacity to give interminable clinical lectures over patients to whom we are radically unable to afford real help. Power and learning do not necessarily go together in this field. The great Charcot is accused, and probably correctly, of actually manufacturing new types of invalidism by his scientific performances at the Salpêtrière, while some common doctor will rescue case after case by using methods which are not medical, but pedagogical and moral, by having a sense for concrete human nature which lets him get at the patient's character. Of all the new agencies that our day has seen, there is but one that tends steadily to assume a more and more commanding importance, and that is the agency of the patient's mind itself. Whoever can produce effects there holds the key of the situation in a number of morbid conditions of which we do not yet know the extent, for systematic experiments in this direction are in their merest infancy. They began in Europe fifteen years ago, when the medical world so tardily admitted the facts of hypnotism to be true, and in this country they have been carried on in a much bolder and more radical fashion by all those "mind-curers" and "Christian scientists" with whose results the public, and even the profession, are growing gradually familiar.

I assuredly hold no brief for any of the these healers, and must confess that my intellect has been unable to assimilate their theories, so far as I have heard them given. But their *facts* are patent and startling; and anything that interferes with the multiplication of such facts, and with our freest opportunity of observing and studying them, will, I believe, be a public calamity. The law now proposed will so interfere, simply because the mind-curers will not take the examinations. They return to science disdain for disdain; and nothing will please some of them better than such a taste of imprisonment as might, by the public outcry it would occasion, bring

the law rattling down about the ears of the mandarins who shall have enacted it.

And whatever one may think of the narrowness of the mind-curers, their logical position is impregnable. They are proving by the most brilliant new results that the therapeutic relation may be what we can at present describe only as a relation of one person to another person; and they are consistent in resisting to the uttermost any legislation that would make "examinable" information the root of medical virtue, and hamper the free play of personal force and affinity by mechanically imposed conditions.

If the chief task, perhaps, of the science of human nature during the next generation is to be the clearer interpretation of all such phenomena as the mind-curers are producing in their crudity, am I not right in saying that a law that would result, if successfully carried out, in the suppression of the activity of such persons is one whose tendency must be obstructive to the advance of knowledge, and have I not then made good the last of my three points?

I know it will be said that I am fighting windmills, and that the real animus of the law is not any absurd grandmotherly anxiety about the citizens' medication, but only a laudable desire to punish those vampire quacks who live by preying on the victims of sexual disease. To which I can only reply that I sympathize most heartily with that vindictive purpose, but that a more direct way must be invented. It is a poor policy to set fire to one's house to broil a mutton chop, or to pour boiling water over one's dog to kill his fleas; and, besides, so long as material for swindling is offered by human nature, so long will there be vampires among us, with licenses or without them.

It will be hard to reach these creatures effectually under any legislative device; but to regulate the whole delicate mechanism of the relations between physician and patient in the State of Massachusetts, for the sole purpose of making it easier for the police to descend upon a few such miscreants, is simply preposterous.

Above all, let us remember that some people must remain sick and others die unnecessarily under any circumstances. Let us not bow down before the Gallic idol of regulation as an end in itself to be pursued for the mere wind and sound of it. If much-policed Germany can get along as well as she does without restrictions on medical practice, surely the State of Massachusetts can continue to do so for a while longer.

PASSING JUDGMENT ON RIVAL COLLEGES.

By J. P. DAKE, M. D., Nashville, Tenn.
ex-president American institute of homeopathy.

In reading the Chicago *Daily Tribune* of the 24th of April I came upon an item of news concerning a court decision that so well illustrates and emphasizes the harmfulness of authoritative medical boards, as they have always appeared to me, that I must reproduce it here:

"Against the state board of health.—Judge Tuley yesterday declined to dissolve the injunction restraining the State Board of Health from publishing anything defamatory to the character and standing of the Chicago Physico-Medical College. The court held that the board had exceeded its powers in criticising the college in its annual report. As the college had not been allowed to reply to the charges before the action of the board was taken he held the state official body in error. The fact that Dr. Quine, a member of the committee, was the head of a rival medical institution seemed to the court to show some animus. Prima faciæ the college was in good standing and there it must remain until good proof to the contrary was shown."

The view taken of the case by his honor, Judge Tuley, is such as would be taken by liberal and fair-minded men generally, who have no personal interest or pet theory at stake.

It appeared in evidence before him that a large number, a very respectable number, at least, of citizens, have confidence in the therapeutic measures of what is known as the Physico-Medical system, and that a number of proficients or leaders in that line of practice have associated themselves in the organization of a college for the training of students, with a curriculum adapted to the purpose. The faculty, the students, and the citizens upon whom they are to practice, all seem satisfied with the provisions made and the course of instruction given in the college. But a board of medical censors, made up of medical gentlemen who have no confidence in and possibly little acquaintance with the Physico-Medical modes of treatment and methods of teaching, having authority from the state of Illinois to supervise and regulate the medical profession, intervenes and declares that anyone simply holding the diploma of that college must not be allowed to practice the art of healing—that however much the people acquainted with his qualifications and desiring his treatment may call upon him, he shall not minister to them. And the board goes further, publishing to the world in its annual report criticisms upon and denunciations of the college itself, as one not to be trusted.

Again, it appeared in evidence that a member of the board, presuming thus to put its ban upon the college and its graduates, is at the head of a rival college; and, further, that all the members of the board, as active practitioners of medicine, are competitors and rivals of the teachers and graduates of the college their order would close!

Inasmuch as the college in question appeared satisfactory to the believers in the physico-medical system and to those depending upon its provisions in times of sickness and danger, the judge ruled that it was, *prima faciæ* "in good standing," and that it must not be criticized and put under ban by the board "until good proof to the contrary was shown."

It is well known to those who know me at all that I did not receive my medical college training in an institution like that before the court, and that I have never relied upon the therapeutic methods of the physico-medical school.

I was educated after the methods of the "straitest sect" of the Allopathic and Homeopathic schools—first the one and then the other—but on looking back and to older countries, I have seen so much of proscription and intolerance in the medical profession exercised by boards of censors, with assumed standards, that I have a strong sympathy with those who think they have something new and better than what it orthodox or "regular," and are struggling to make is known, under a weight of odium and persecution.

I cannot forget how Hahnemann was derided and driven about as the discoverer of a great principle in medicine by authoritative censors; and how, by similar means, his followers have been hounded and harassed in all countries, more especially under governments that, even now, deny them the privilege of charters for schools of their own.

This is not the country nor the age for boards of

medical censors, clothed with authority, to rob the medical profession of its freedom to study and devise new and better ways of healing the sick, nor to deprive the people of their natural right to employ whatever ministry of relief they may prefer in times of suffering.

Much as is now known of the art of healing, a hundred times more is needed before any government can venture to set up exclusive standards either for medical colleges or medical practices.

Let the state elicit and publish information whereby the people may learn what each physician offering service has done to qualify himself for the treatment of the sick and then let the sick or their friends take their choice.

The responsibility is upon them and not upon the state.

Correspondence.

LETTER FROM CALCUTTA.

6–1 Chawringhee, Calcutta, India,
February 21, 1894.

Dear Doctor Fisher:

I have already written you about myself. I am regularly getting your Medical Century which has become a semi-monthly journal. It contains many readable things. Today I give you some news about Indian progress of Homeopathy.

Before my arrival here our Calcutta School of Homeopathy commenced its new session. We have secured a very efficient staff of teachers this year. I must inform you that I am the dean of the school. The prize distribution of this institution will take place on the 24th inst. A large number of invitations were issued.

Dr. William P. Wesselhœft, of Boston, came to India. He stayed about a week in this city (Calcutta). He met all our colleagues here and we had a conversation meeting at the Great Eastern Hotel room. He is, as you know, an enthusiastic Homeopath, and we derived much benefit from his conversation. He visited our Calcutta Homeopathic Hospital, where the number of patients at present is very small, owing to the healthy condition of our city now.

He was pleased with another charity here which is called Sir Tagore Rajmata Homeopathic Dispensary. This dispensary was established by a distinguished rich man of our city, Sir Rajah Sourindra Mohan Tagore. It was founded three years ago, under my supervision. This nobleman now makes an endowment of landed property, from the income of which this dispensary will be maintained. It has so become a permanent institution.

I invited Dr. Wesselhœft to my place, where he talked with my daughter, who presented Mrs. Wesselhœft with an earring made by a countryman of mine. My wife offered some of our hand-made sweetmeats to our guest. Thus we enjoyed a very pleasant meeting.

Dr. Wesselhœft is touring round the world. He started with his wife for Ceylon, whence, after a short stay, they will embark for China and Japan. From the latter place they will return to their country via Pacific route.

I will send you the remittance for another copy of the Century on my next mail day, hoping to be excused for the delay. My kindest regards for yourself, Mrs. Fisher and our colleagues in Chicago,

I remain, fraternally yours,
P. C. Majumdar, M. D.

LETTER FROM ACCURATE DR. PECK.

Editor Medical Century:

While addressing and mailing my recent circular on Puerperal Dietetics, my clerk discovered that the stamps and sheets provided were in excess of the number required. Investigation indicated I had provided exactly one hundred too many. More extended examination showed that the excellent and usually accurate secretary of the Institute or his clerk had committed an error of an even hundred in adding the "Membership by States" on page 393 of the transactions, so that we have or had at the close of the last session but 1481 regular members and 1513 of all sorts. Persons interested will make the necessary correction and prevent farther promulgation of the false returns. I congratulate myself that we have discovered the mistake and have not had it left to be pointed out by the enemy.

Yours sincerely,
Providence, R. I. Geo. B. Peck, M. D.

AN APOLOGY.

Editor Medical Century:

For Prof. Gilchrist I entertain only feelings of kindness. Formerly as comrades we battled for the surgical liberty of our school in Michigan, which battle has been won. I desire to tender a sincere apology for having named Dr. Gilchrist in a paper in which principles and not persons are under discussion.

In my next paper I hope to make a satisfactory statement of my own position.

Charles S. Morley, M. D.
Detroit, April 15, 1894.

CHEERING NEWS FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

Editor Medical Century:

The recent "tempest" out here has quite subsided —no serious damage resulting so far—an unpleasant experience to be subjected to the gale, but we all feel the atmosphere is clearer now and look for better progress in the near future. The outlook for the college for the coming year is excellent, and we hope soon to secure hospital facilities. We have a beautiful building site for hospital purposes, overlooking the Golden Gate and ocean, size about 240 by 260 feet, all paid for, at a cost of about $16,000. Half of the purchase price was donated by the late Moses Hopkins. On this sightly lot we hope to see a $50,000 stone and brick hospital building in course of erection, this or next year. At any rate we shall all work to this and hope for the realization in the near future. Very cordially yours,

Geo. H. Palmer, M. D.
San Francisco, April 26, 1894.

LETTER FROM DENVER.

Editor Medical Century:

In answer to your request of recent date would say I can only say at present that the members of the local committee are hard at work completing arrangements for a glorious time in June, and nature is doing her very best to get Colorado in good shape for a surprise to the Eastern people who are so fortunate as to attend the Institute meeting. Matters have progressed wonderfully well. The headquarters will be at the Brown Palace Hotel, than which there is none finer anywhere. The sessions will be held at the First Baptist Church on

Stout street, only four blocks from the hotel. The memorial service will be held in one of our many fine churches, which one cannot as yet be definitely stated. On Saturday evening, June 16, a reception will be given by the profession of Colorado to our visiting friends at the Brown Palace from 8:30 to 11:30 P. M.

Between times the ladies of the "Meissen" I understand are shaping great plans for entertaining the ladies who come out to see us.

Plans are completed for a trip around the famous Georgetown Loop, and arrangements are being effected for a trip by railroad or carriage to Pike's Peak, a trip around the circle through the famous Royal Gorge alongside of which Switzerland is not in it in the way of scenery.

Dr. Burnham, the indefatigable, is completing arrangements for a trip to Salt Lake.

Manitou officials are anxious to make it as pleasant as possible for any who may wish to spend a few days there and enjoy the various springs and baths.

What, with Colorado air, such unequalled scenery as Colorado alone can show, Colorado sunshine which lasts twenty-six hours every day, Colorado mountain waters and springs, Denver, Manitou, Colorado Springs, Pike's Peak, the Garden of the Gods, the Manitou Caverns, and Colorado doctors, it would require a serial story to even faintly (not fairly) describe the grand munificence of nature to our silver centennial state.

I shall try and write again soon and all I can say in finishing is Come and bring ALL your acquaintances with you.

Yours truly,
S. F. SHANNON, M. D.

Denver, April 27, 1894.

SMOKY CITY NEWS.

EDITOR MEDICAL CENTURY:

It gives us great pleasure to report that the work of the Homeopathic hospital in Pittsburgh has been taken up and is being pushed with great vigor. It is not often that an institution has to pass through such an ordeal as befell it last winter, when, in consequence of the development of a case of smallpox in the medical ward the city authorities quarantined the building and allowed neither ingress nor egress. For three months the hospital was unable to resume its work, for the building had to be thoroughly disinfected, cleaned, painted, frescoed and partially refurnished after the quarantine was raised. Still, with that tremendous draw-back the report at the annual meeting will, we are sure, show a gratifying condition. In another letter I hope to speak of this meeting which took place at the hospital on Tuesday, April 10.

If any one doubts our report as to the creditable condition of matters here we would respectfully refer him (or her) to the genial head of this great MEDICAL CENTURY. It was the pleasure of the writer to take him on a running tour of the house and we fancy our "showing" produced a good impression on him. We hope so, at any rate. He made a flying visit here, the guest of Dr. J. H. McClelland, the president of the American Institute. We have great hopes for the unqualified success of the meeting at Denver and from what we know of the hustling qualities of the chairman of the committee on railroads we feel sure that our hopes will not be blasted. The members *will be there* if their going depends on the passenger service. Dr. Fisher's visit was very much enjoyed by "us of Allegheny county" and we hope sincerely he'll "do it some more."

Speaking of Allegheny county reminds us that our society, under the leadership of Dr. John L. Ferson, a bright man, half way through his "medical teens," has been doing remarkably good work lately. At the last meeting Dr. Robert S. Marshall, who is not yet in his "M. Ts.," gave a very interesting and scientific address on a subject pertinent to the times in which we live, "The Relation of Natural Gas to the Public Health." The paper was very interesting, calling fourth considerable discussion. The general opinion expressed was that if a proper escape was provided for the products of combustion no harm could result.

In conversing with one of the members of the Homeopathic Board of Medical Examiners of this state the writer learned that at the meeting held in Harrisburg on the 3d inst. an organization was effected and a list of questions prepared to be submitted to the medical council. Everything was harmonious, the members of the different boards consulting in the most friendly way possible over the arrangements, rules and regulations. The examinations will not be held, probably, before July 1st. The plan bids fair to be successful in its operation in this state.

H.

April 17, '94.

GOOD NEWS FROM MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, April 21, 1894.

EDITOR MEDICAL CENTURY:

Enclosed find check for MEDICAL CENTURY—ever a welcome visitor. I like the push and energy displayed, and every Homeopath should be proud to help you in the work. Subscriptions should be paid promptly in advance. My own carelessness is probably due to the fact that, as an old newspaper man, I had grown callous to the financial needs of an editor. I promise to do better in the future.

Perhaps you would be interested in the fact that old Montreal is about to have a Homeopathic hospital. After years of waiting—and some indifference—the prominent Homeopathists of the city have taken hold of the work and are pushing the project to a rapid completion. A kind lady friend contributed $10,000. A house was purchased in close proximity to McGill College. Possession will be secured on May 1st. Enough cash is now on hand to thoroughly renovate and equip the building and conduct the hospital for one year without another cent of income. But this is only a start. We are going to continue the work and procure larger facilities as fast as the cash comes in. Prominent society ladies have taken a deep interest in the work—and it is well known that when the ladies are at the helm failure cannot result. The following physicians have been appointed to serve on the medical board: Consulting staff—Arthur Fisher, M. D., Montreal; Geo. Logan, M. D., and D. C. McLaren, M. D., Ottawa; Geo. Gale, M. D., Quebec. The following members comprise the attending staff: John Wanless, M. B., M. D., F. C. P. S.; W. G. Nichol, C. M., M. D.; Hugh Matthewson Patton, B. A. C. M., M. D.; T. Scott Nichol, C. M., M. D.; Alex. R. Griffith, M. D. (New York Homeopathic Medical College).

Dr. Patton was unanimously elected chief of staff. Dr. Wanless was named as chairman of the medical board. The physicians are all enthusiastic in the work before them, and are determined to maintain the high standing that Homeopathy has attained throughout the world. Sincerely yours,

ALEX. R. GRIFFITH, M. D.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY NEWS.

EDITOR MEDICAL CENTURY:

For twenty-eight years the Pittsburgh Homeopathic Hospital and Dispensary has been in existence. It was begun in a small house formerly used as a dwelling and remodeled for use as a hospital. Today the hospital building occupies a quarter of a block, is handsomely finished internally and externally, and comprises besides the rooms, wards, etc., for ordinary hospital work, a large and handsomely furnished eye and ear annex, whose equipment is not surpassed anywhere. All the latest and most improved instruments and mechanical devices are here, and put to good use by the corps of five physicians who are on daily duty. The general hospital contains also a dispensary whose work is well done.

The hospital year came to an end on the 1st of April, and a few days later the annual meeting of the corporators was held and a number of exceedingly interesting reports were listened to. Mr. Wm. Metcalfe who presided has been president of the board of trustees for a number of years, and is thoroughly interested in the work, contributing largely of his very ample means, and showing always by his work and presence the liveliest liking for everything connected with hospital life.

The chairman of the executive committee, Dr. J. H. McClelland, he of American Institute and Hahnemann monument fame, presented the first report of the day. He called attention to the fact that for three months the hospital had not been in active operation owing to the results of the development of a case of smallpox in the wards of the hospital. This must be taken into consideration in an estimate of the work done.

During the year, 1,392 patients were admitted. Of these 273 paid some full rates, others only a part, and 1,119 paid nothing. The total number of hospital days was 32,002. The daily average was 101, and the cost of maintaining the charity patients was $33,574.83. The total expenses for the year were $52,317.16, from which deducting the earnings from the dispensary and training school, $2,227.99, leaves the actual expenses, including about $10,000 for repainting and cleaning the hospital after the smallpox episode, as being $50,089.17. This is provided for by the voluntary contributions of friends, by receipts from board of patients and by an annual appropriafrom the state of Pennsylvania.

The training school, through its very able superintendent, Miss Wright, was reported in good trim. In our next letter we propose to give an account of the very interesting exercises held in connection with its commencement day.

The ladies' association was formed among a number of our ladies here, who are prominent in both their social life and their work for charity's cause. During the year they contributed $3,750 to the support of the hospital, besides being constantly on the lookout in the matter of household arrangements. During the fifteen years of the existence of the association they have contributed about $80,000 towards the support of the hospital.

Dr. W. J. Martin, secretary of the medical board, gave his report. Of the 1,392 patients treated, 912 were discharged cured; 235 improved; 19 unimproved; 46 were removed by friends, and 100 died. There were 573 treated in the surgical and 549 in the general medical department. The report says: "Never in any winter before have so many deplorable cases been brought to our doors suffering from the effects of exposure and starvation, many too far gone to be helped, but more by careful, untiring nursing have been restored to perfect health."

The treasurer, Mr. William Semple, made his report and announced, as a pleasing finale, that since the report was written he had received notice that bequests amounting to $10,495 are in the hands of executors awaiting his order. This money will figure in the report for 1894.

Among the trustees re-elected were Drs. J. F. Cooper, of Allegheny, and J. B. McClelland, of Pittsburg. After the meeting of the corporators the trustees met and re-elected the officers who had served during the year just closed. The pleasures of the afternoon were well rounded out with the serving of a delightful lunch, provided by the ladies' association. H.

BUFFALO BUDGET.

EDITOR MEDICAL CENTURY:

Having received a brief visit from your business manager recently, and having been invited to write you an occasional letter, how can I resist?

Miss Young was passing our office, recalled the name, dropped in and gave Dr. Wilcox and myself the pleasure of showing her Dr. Wilcox's Private Hospital, the Bond-Pierce Cottage, and the Nurses Cottage, all of which are managed by the Buffalo Hospital Co.

We certainly regret that her time was too limited for a demonstration of hospitality or information regarding the profession and things relative to it. The fact that we could not tell it all has prompted this letter for the remainder. We shall endeavor to give you an occasional letter from Buffalo that will savor necessarily of local interest, and will in no way infringe on our worthy friend and correspondent's right from Rochester, although I shall try to keep you informed of Homeopathic affairs in western New York.

The editors of medical journals in general hear from the representative men of different cities, men who contribute able articles, or who are active in the Institute and State Societies and Academies of Medicine, etc., but frequently get a wrong impression of professional standing and the relative strength compared with other schools of medicine.

Numerically, the Homeopathic profession in Buffalo is small; it will surprise you when I say that we have only one-tenth the number that our Allopathic friends are entitled to. Buffalo, which proudly claims 350,000 people, has less than fifty Homeopathic physicians. You may ask why are there so few? Two reasons can be given: We have no Homeopathic college to give prestige or to create a local supply in the market; we have but one Homeopathic college in the state; of her we are justly proud, but she does not supply the demand. Hence you will see that this is a happy location for the prospective "locater." You may ask whether we have a sentiment or predilection among the laity for our style of physicians. Most certainly; four-fifths of our physicians are located on the West Side, which is practically the only resident portion of the city, being the embodiment of wealth, society and culture. More than half of the Allopathic fraternity are on the East Side, which is made up of foreign extraction, and is not so desirable a class of patrons, though worthy people. I have simply laid stress on this point, for it is admitted by our opponents that

our profession in Buffalo have a better class of patronage than they have.

Again, you may ask: "Would you ask or invite young physicians to locate in Buffalo?" Certainly. We need twenty-five good men, and they should locate here at once.

We regret to say that we have not a first-class, large Homeopathic hospital in Buffalo. There are no good reasons why such an institution should not exist; there are childish reasons and excuses for its non-existence, which I am too young to detail, although I much deplore their existence.

With all charity, I must say that our Homeopathic hospital is a discredit to the older members of the profession. At present it is too small and is crowded beyond its capacity, which is only forty patients; besides, the building is old and is ill-adapted for modern care and treatment of the sick.

The Buffalo Hospital Co., which is the only other Homeopathic institution, is practically a private hospital with a capacity for twenty-five patients. It is modern and complete in its appointments, and is the only private hospital worthy of recognition in the city. As your business manager may say something about it we shall sing no further.

The state medical laws have put the Homeopathic profession on a proper basis of recognition and have created a more fraternal feeling between our Allopathic brethren and ourselves. Consultations with one another are frequent; in fact the question of school in consultation is scarcely thought of.

The same laws necessarily give Homeopaths a right and undisputed claim and qualifications for public positions, which in this state are regulated by a civil service not a stranger to merit.

When the Erie County Hospital was organized last year the Homeopaths made a vigorous effort to be represented, and obtained more than their numerical ratio of the work. Here again the strongest arguments asserted to substantiate the justice of our claims were the state laws which qualify us and prove our equality. We receive one fourth of the surgical work, one fourth of the gynecological, one half of the eye and ear cases, one half of the nose and throat work, one fourth of the general practice, and have the same number of consulting physicians as the old school has. In other branches of the profession we would have received representation had we had men in the various specialties. I mention this hospital because it sustains the relation to Buffalo that the Cook County Hospital does to Chicago, and although it is not a year old it already contains over three hundred beds.

The Homeopathic profession is again rejoicing over its recent consideration by the state legislature, which has just passed a bill giving us the Collin's farm, near Buffalo, to be used for the employment and pre-occupation of the insane. It is to be conducted on the industrial plan and the most humane lines of treatment. Our hospital at Middleton has long been too inadequate for our insane and we feel justly proud that we will soon be able to send our insane to our own institution. There are few states where our school has received such recognition, but this state has a standard of equality, it has recognized us as a school and is only assuming its obligation in a loyal manner by providing for our necessities and the public's welfare. To only the casual observer it must be obvious that the state laws are abetting the cause and interests of Homeopathy. I say this because so much has been said against our state laws. It will be but a few years until the effect of the laws will show a comparison most enviable.

Homeopathy is not strong in numbers in this state compared with many others but it is well organized and recognized. Fraternally,

Buffalo, May 2d. Monroe Manges.

FURTHER ITEMS FROM BUFFALO.

As our correspondent suggests in his entertaining letter above, Buffalo presents that soothing pastoral spectacle of the lion and the lamb lying down together, the lamb outside of the lion. The conditions which he notes are as unusual as desirable, and we congratulate the handful of liberal, progressive Homeopaths who are responsible therefor. To our thinking this responsibility attaches in a large degree to Dr. DeWitt G. Wilcox, one of the coming men in surgery—who is even now here. Besides occupying the position of attending surgeon to Erie County Hospital, Dr. Wilcox is the president of the Buffalo Hospital Company, formerly the Wilcox Private Hospital Co., which has under its jurisdiction the Wilcox Private Hospital and the Bond-Pierce Cottage. The total number of persons received in the hospital in 1892 was 111. The first of July, 1893, the hospital's capacity was doubled by the addition of the Bond-Pierce Cottage, the gift of a Chicago man. Although there are no stipulations from the donors regarding the attention of physicians in this department, it is understood that all indigent sick entitled to gratuitous professional care shall receive the same. Dr. Wilcox, in the opening and conducting of his hospital, has done a great deal to promote the more extensive use of private hospitals and it is largely due to him that in his own community the old prejudices against hospitals are materially lessening. The Wilcox Private Hospital is fortunate in having many friends of wealth and influence, and substantial aid in the near future for the purpose of enlarging the buildings has been assured. Located in a desirable part of the city on a beautiful avenue, the Wilcox Hospital with its cottage contingent is to Buffalo what Streeter's and Pratt's Hospitals are to Chicago. At this period of its history the Wilcox Hospital is small but redeems in quality whatever it lacks in quantity. Everywhere obtain the most scrupulous neatness, the most careful antiseptic precautions and the most rigorous discipline in the training school adjunct. Dr. Wilcox is to be congratulated upon his corps of efficient assistants, all of whom seem imbued with the inspiring animus of their superior officer, whose ruling is evidently "what's worth doing is worth doing well"—a ruling which accrues substantial benefit to the patrons of the hospital's appetizing diet kitchen, its dainty furnishings and the quiet decorum of its daily routine. Dr. Wilcox, being a progressive man, is of course not satisfied with what has been done and has already taken steps for the establishment of another hospital at Black Rock, a community certainly destined to become the great manufacturing center of Buffalo. It is not unlikely, therefore—it is even probable—that before long Dr. Wilcox will have established another hospital at this place. It is pre-eminently a good location for the branch hospital

and Dr. Wilcox is pre-eminently the man to make a success of the undertaking. Y.

FROM LOUISVILLE.

Editor Medical Century:

The ninth annual meeting of the Kentucky Homeopathic Medical Society will be held in the parlors of the Phœnix Hotel, Lexington, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, May 15, 16 and 17, 1894.

The officers are H. M. Marsh, M. D., Danville, President; Julia Washburn, M. D., Lexington, Vice-President; Allison Clokey, M. D., Louisville, Secretary; and J. T. Bryan, M. D., Shelbyville, Treasurer.

The Board of Censors are J. M. Wilds, M. D., Nicholasville, Chairman; E. B. Johns, M. D., Lexington, and H. S. Keller, M. D., Frankfort.

The call to order will be made promptly at 10 A. M. Tuesday.

The order of business is as follows:

Call to order by President H. M. Marsh, M. D., Danville.

Prayer, by Rev. Robt. T. Mathews, Lexington.

Address of Welcome, by the Mayor, Hon. H. T. Duncan, Lexington.

Response, by F. A Young, M. D., Hopkinsville.

Reading of Minutes of Eighth Annual Meeting.

Report of Officers and Standing Committees.

Report of Board of Censors.

Election of New Members.

President's Address.

Reports of Chairmen of Bureaux.

Discussion of Papers.

New Business.

Unfinished Business.

Adjourned

The respective Bureaux are:

MATERIA MEDICA.

J. C. Foster, M. D., Harrodsburg, Chairman.

SURGERY.

E. B. Johns, M. D., Lexington, Chairman.

CLINICAL MEDICINE.

O. H. Buck, M. D., Paris, Chairman.

OBSTETRICS.

C. S. Holton, M. D., Richmond, Chairman.

GYNECOLOGY.

Sarah M. Sievers, M. D., Newport, Chairman.

EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

J. T. Bryan, M. D., Shelbyville, Chairman.

PEDOLOGY.

J. H. Smizer, M. D., Cynthiana, Chairman.

There is no better evidence of the growth of the Kentucky Society than the marked improvement each year in the quantity and quality of our program and in the increased attendance.

The society presents a program this year that eclipses all former ones and offers inducements to attend that ought to bring every Homeopath in the state to the meeting.

It was decided last year to publish our transactions hereafter, and it is hoped that all papers will be typewritten, if possible, and otherwise prepared with reference to being published. It is also probable that stenographical reports will be taken of the discussions, so that no part of our transactions may be wanting. Let us give to the profession at large a volume that will reflect credit upon the Kentucky Society. We trust that other papers than those on the program will be presented. Those members of the society who have not yet reported to some one bureau are still urged to bring papers with them and report to their chairmen before the bureaux are closed.

It has been thought necessary to spend three days in session hereafter, because of the difficulty of finishing the business in two. This is owing entirely to the fact that those who attend the meeting are so late getting in. If all will be more prompt this year, going to Lexington the night before, so that they may be on hand when the call to order is made, there will be no necessity for remaining over till Thursday

Those who meet with us at Lexington will find that our committee of arrangements has provided for their every comfort. Special rates of $2 50 per day have been secured from the management of the Phœnix Hotel, where we will make our headquarters. The meetings will be held in the hotel parlors. Special railroad rates of one and one-third fare for the round trip have been offered on the certificate plan, i. e., purchase a full rate ticket to Lexington and secure from the agent a certificate showing such a ticket has been sold; this certificate, when signed by the secretary of the society, will entitle the holder to a return ticket at one-third the usual rate.

The call to order will be made at 10 A. M., Tuesday. Let every man who is interested in the cause of Homeopathy in Kentucky prove it by coming to the meeting and adding his mite.

Allison Clokey, Secretary.

A NOTE FROM ABROAD.

The difficulty of getting woman into medicine, the law and the pulpit is now reduced to a final struggle with the professors. The barriers to the field of medicine have already been weakened in Prussia by the ministry of public worship, which has given several women permission to practice in Berlin.

Of course, the ministry had a traditional precedent for this action. Everything has a traditional precedent here. Frederick the Great let Halle University give M. D.'s to Fräulein Siebold and Fräulein Erxleben after they had crowned their private studies with creditable examinations under the medical faculty.

That was good enough, for Frederick the Great has usually been considered good enough for other Hohenzollerns, and so it has come that eight women, by special exertion and special ministerial permission, are now able to put M. D.'s after their names in the Berlin directory. To be sure, some of these M. D.'s devote themselves to practicing dentistry, because, while German physicians of ability abound, skilled German dentists are appallingly scarce; yet they are keeping the ice broken for their sisters, and for the present that is almost a profusion in itself.

"Fräulein."

Decrease of Typhoid Fever in Paris.—The number of deaths from typhoid fever in Paris in 1893 was only 533, as against 1,035 in 1886, and 2,120 in 1880.

Medical Century

An International Journal of Homeopathic Medicine and Surgery.

C. E. FISHER, M. D., - Editor.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR:

W. A. DEWEY, M. D., New York.

Chicago, May 15, 1894.

OUR EDITOR'S PHIZ.

The Medical Century, as everybody knows who knows it, is an egotistical, boasting, semi-monthly, international young thing, and for the past few issues it has been even more so, having decided that its array of frontispieces was assuming interesting proportions, and was a feature of which to be justly proud; but just as we were beginning to feel that the Century could never again go to press without a picture in front, somebody from somewhere failed to get his photo to us in time for the current issue. As we said above and may say again, we have prided ourselves upon our surgeons and gynecologists and gasbags, and we were disappointed and chagrined at the prospect of no picture for this issue. Meantime the Editor has gone east and the business management has determined to make him, during his absence, useful as well as ornamental. We have therefore put him in for filling. But we want to say right now that we may have to call on the profession to support us in our course, as we have, in thus making him a party to honest toil, gone prone against one of the editor's dictums.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE ITINERARY.

The transportation committee of the American Institute of Homeopathy has issued an edition of ten thousand copies of the handsome circular of information which has doubtless been received by every member of the Institute and most members of the general profession by this time, and already a large number of applications for reservations for sleeping car accommodations are being sent in to this office, this indicating the intention of the profession to attend the Denver meeting in force. In this connection it may be well for the editor of this journal, who is chairman of the railway committee, to suggest to the profession that never in the history of the Institute, unless upon the occasion of the meeting at Deer Park, has the Institute been so well treated by the railroads as we are being treated this year by the Chicago & Alton—Union Pacific combination. Owing to internal dissensions in the Western Passenger Association, to which all the trunk lines of the West belong, it seemed for a good time as if we should have to pay full fare both ways on this journey or walk to the meeting. But when the crititical moment presented, the lines selected came to our relief with the tender of one fare for the round trip, special railway chaperonage, our own through trains and enjoyable side trips, and, further, they have issued the advertising of the transportation committee to the extent of several hundred dollars with a view to increasing the attendance as greatly as possible, thereby saving to the Institute this amount.

Of course it would be folly to argue that this has all been done in a spirit of philanthropy or in the interests of the Institute alone. There is business in these methods, but, the fact remains that in spite of all the urging and begging and pleading and imploring of which the committee is capable no other line offered to favor us in the least until after the lines selected by the committee had lifted us out of our trouble. Further than this, several of the lines leading to Denver flatly refused to make any offer that embraced concessions in rates, special accommodations, side trips, etc. Yet since the transportation committee acted officially in behalf of the Institute, and since their action has been endorsed by the president and other officers of that body, some of these lines are coming to the front with offers similar to those of the official route, but yet not equal to theirs, and individual members of the Institute are being solicited to over-step the bounds of loyalty to that body and of general propriety and to undertake the formation of special parties to Denver, thus interfering with the legitimate duties of an authorized committee and attempting to draw from the "American Institute of Homeopathy Special" a part of the membership, thereby detracting from the pleasures of the journey and just that far interfering with the complete success of the committee's work.

Nor does philanthropy and the general good of the Institute here obtain to any great extent, but purely personal and selfish interests are being conserved. The editors of another journal are sending out the advertising of a line which flatly refused any concessions to the Institute's committee, under the reward of personal transportation to the meeting and passes for their publisher and family to the Pacific coast—at least this modest demand was made by them of the official lines and was declined as even more than the lion's share. Perhaps this may be legitimate, but to most men it would appear as if the work of the transportation committee should in no wise be interfered with, especially if that work has been accomplished under difficulties, and if it is, when completed, satisfactory to the executive committee of the American Institute of Homeopathy.

One of the alleged inducements of other lines is a side-trip to Colorado Springs. This is deception,

pure and simple, as Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo are recognized in railway circles as common Colorado points, and all purchasers of tickets over any line leading to Denver need but choose a ticket through Denver to Colorado Springs and back to enjoy this "side-trip." The official line not only embraces this in its offer but gives us the additional pleasure of a jaunt of a day out in the Rocky Mountains to Silver Plume mountain and back, this jaunt taking us up Clear Creek Cañon, a cañon in which is to be witnessed placer mining, and compassing the celebrated Georgetown Loop, one of the most famous feats of railway engineering in the world.

It would seem as if every interest of the Institute justified a severe rebuke to attempted interference with the work of its properly constituted committees, no matter what their lines of work, and since we feel sure, from a thorough study of the railway situation, that the American Institute of Homeopathy Special is the train for all its members to take in making their journey to Denver, we make free to express the hope that no countenance will be given to the efforts of any meddlesome Matties to detract from the success and pleasures of the Institute's Itinerary, and especially when such interference arises from nothing more or less, as in this instance, than a barter for personal free transportation to the place of meeting.

COOK COUNTY'S TESTIMONY.

From Professor J. W. Streeter, chief of the Homeopathic gynecological staff of Cook County Hospital, the CENTURY has received a very gratifying report of the work done in that institution for the past five years. This report is tabulated for each of these years and from it the following highly interesting information is gained: The total number of patients admitted to the hospital during this time was 43,598. Of those, 28,121 were assigned to the Allopathic school, 8,509 to the Homeopathic school and 6,968 to the Eclectic. The total number of deaths in the hospital during this time was 4,774. Of the Allopaths' 28,121 they lost 3,340, a death rate of 11.88 per cent. Of the Homeopaths' 8,509 they lost 766, exactly 9 per cent. Of the Eclectics' 6,968 they lost 668, or 9.56 per cent. Thus it will be seen that while the entire death sum total is 4,774, if the Allopaths had treated all the patients in the hospital for five years the number of deaths would have been 5,179, or it would have cost the county 405 more lives to have had the institution altogether under Allopathic control. Another way of putting it is this: While the death record shows 4,774 losses, if the Eclectics had treated all of the patients, the number of deaths would have been 4,167, and if the Homeopaths had treated them all, it would have been but 3,923; and thus it will be seen that if our school had had entire charge of the Cook County Hospital during the five years, there would have been a saving of 651 lives, if exactly the same proportion of losses had been maintained throughout the entire institution that has been maintained in the Homeopathic department alone. And since the cases are assigned to the various departments in numerical order, there is no reason for supposing that any other result would have been had.

It therefore certainly behooves the management of the Cook County Hospital and all similar institutions to seriously consider the question of placing Homeopathy in control in the interests of humanity and saving human life. This is a splendid array of figures. It is taken from the official records of the hospital, and while even our death rate may seem high, yet it speaks volumes for the superior merits of the Homeopathic school in treating the sick and afflicted of a great city. The claim is often made that Homeopathy is good enough for children but hardly the thing for full grown men and women. The admissions to Cook County Hospital are made up from the very worst class of cases known to the medical profession; all sorts of chronic incurables are admitted; all kinds of accidents and injuries fall to the hands of the medical and surgical staff, and the wards are rarely invaded by people who go there from choice. So that the better results are obtained among that class of people who afford us the most difficult and intractable cases we are called upon to treat.

This testimony is exceedingly valuable to us and should be used all over the country as an argument in favor of the admission of Homeopathy to the various public institutions of the land.

THE MISSOURI INSTITUTE MEETING.

Beyond question this enterprising society leads the van in the west. It is never without interest to the visitor and member. It has had the good fortune of having had a number of general secretaries who, if they did not inaugurate the custom of building up a noteworthy program and then sending it broadcast all over the land, have at least been instrumental in pushing that kind of a program almost to the limit of usefulness. It has also had the added good fortune of being presided over in later years by a line of presidents who would do honor to any deliberative society, and who, in addition to their parliamentary knowledge, were gifted with that rare insight into matters, medical and Homeopathic, which has brought the Missouri Institute to the very front of the column and bids fair to keep it there.

The recently completed session held at St. Louis was one in no way inferior to its immediate predecessors, either in the number of members and visitors or in the number and interest of the papers presented and the fervor and enthusiasm of the discussions engaged in. Dr. Wm. P. Cutler was the right man in the right place, and his rulings at several critical junctures, added to his admirable self-

possession, stamped him an officer of superior merit and one capable of presiding over any public body. His address covered the Homeopathic situation in an intensely graphic way and conveyed it in terse and eloquent phraseology. If acted on, the recommendations in Dr. Cutler's address will tend to add many laurels to the Homeopathic trophies. That they ought to be acted upon goes almost without saying.

The very evident spirit of kindliness and fairness to all which dominated the sessions from the first moment to the close was especially noticeable. This was particularly evidenced in the graceful acquiescence of the Kansas City College people in the decision of the arbitration committee which had before it all the facts presented by and against the college. The consummation was an amicable adjustment of all troubles and a promise to keep the unpleasantness, if any further there should be, out of the secular press. It was a skilfully devised compromise, resulting in the settlement of a very badly threatened scandal. It is a fashion that might well be more often imitated by other squabblers in college ranks who persist in airing their personal grievances in the public prints, and by their subsequent obstinacy frustrate all efforts on the part of the peacefully inclined to cement former breaks in the college continuity.

But over and above all, the Missouri meeting just adjourned is noticeable and praisworthy for its adherence to the "Homeopathic idea." Here one could hear during the session of any bureau good Homeopathy recommended and upheld. St. Louis is one of the few remaining cities where the Homeopathic doctor is not afraid to add "Homeopathist" to his sign. It is gratifying to hear the younger and more progressive (but perhaps not quite so "scientific") physicians standing up boldly for the single remedy, the potentized remedy, and the prescription on the totality of the symptoms, as Hahnemann taught them in his time. As a rule, when the papers touched upon therapeutics they gave the old fashioned Homeopathic remedies with the equally old fashioned indications; nowhere was there a whisper of the combination or alternation of remedies. Not once. It was straight Homeopathy. Only one member deemed it incumbent on a few occasions to air his peculiar ideas and drag in the high-potency question. When this personage found that he could not stir up strife on the potency question he addressed himself thereafter to the questions before the meeting.

One of the laughable incidents of the sessions was what might be aptly termed the occurrence of "Chicago Day." On Wednesday of the week in which the sessions were held, the opening of the morning session found the front row of seats filled by the Chicago contingent, who had arrived during the night and morning fresh and eager for the fray. As soon as the bureau of gynecology was opened Dr. Sheldon Leavitt was invited to read his paper, which appears elsewhere. Thereupon ensued a merry war between the several Chicago doctors which lasted during the greater portion of "Chicago Day," while the Missouri Institute kindly stood by as interested spectators, applauding the one or the other party as predilection or evident success tended to direct. Next morning when the session was again called to order the Missouri Institute had resumed its normal condition, the Chicago contingent having struck its tent during the night and being no longer anywhere to be seen.

The Institute attempted to handle a very patent abuse and did in part restrict its operation, namely the tendency to read an absent writer's paper by title only. The usual motion was made to this effect but was amended so as to apply alone to members of the Institute and not to contributors at a distance. It must appear to any thinking mind that the proper course would be for the secretary to solicit no papers except from persons who expect to be present. A few papers in each bureau and elaborately discussed will be of more lasting service to the membership than a dozen papers to the bureau, hurriedly skimped over, or read by title and the discussions limited to a few minutes. When a society prints its annual meetings in book-form, then there remains some little claim to justice in reading by title at the meeting; but when, as with the Missouri Institute, the papers are scattered all over the country and appear in numerous journals during the greater part of the year, and no record is made thereof, it is manifessly unjust to condemn the lucubrations of an eminent man or woman to the waste-basket of the Institute, for such it is practically. If all the papers and proceedings were published in one journal and each member was a subscriber to that journal, then the troublous question would assume a different and far more pleasant aspect. It may be argued that a member who doesn't think enough of his state society to attend it once a year does not deserve to have his paper read except by title. He might retort with reason that a good way to avoid such non-reading would be for the secretary not to ask for the papers. But in the case of physicians at a distance who the secretary very well knows, when he solicits them for papers or essays, cannot attend the meeting, the eminent but distant physician having loaned his name and the time to bolstering up the program is entitled to some recognition at the hands of the society, and reading by title in his instance is a patent injustice. It is not to be wondered, therefore, that some of these distant parties, knowing the fate of their papers, presently palm off on the far away society or Institute some paper that has served its turn with a local society or for some other purpose, neither of which is known to the society soliciting essays. Here the paper is introduced into the program as original and serves the end of attracting attention and giving the author a little passing notoriety. This was done in the Mis-

souri Institute by two far eastern parties who sent *blasé* papers. Another physician did not send such paper but actually read in the Institute a paper prepared for a local society in another state and read to that and other societies. As soon as the Missouri Institute adopts the rule of treating its absent contributors with fairness, then perhaps these absent as well as some of the attending physicians will be slow to send or read second-hand essays.

Taken all in all the Missouri Institute of Homeopathy has been a great success in recent years and its excellent wisdom in choosing its presidents and secretaries for the past decade has largely been the cause of its present prosperity.

Editor's Table.

Denver!

Denver, Colorado!

Denver, Colorado, June, 1894!

Denver ! Denver ! ! Denver ! ! ! Denver ! ! ! !

Let all who can, go to Denver, June 14, 1894.

Dr. O. Stewart Bamber has recently been appointed as one of the city physicians at Rochester, N. Y.

Dr. George M. Dillow has removed from 102 west 43d street to the corner of 57th and Broadway, New York.

Dr. T. E. Enloe, Nashville, is post-graduating in Chicago at the hospitals and Lincoln Park Sanitarium.

The American Congress of Physicians and Surgeons will meet in Washington May 29th to June 1st, inclusive.

Dr. W. G. Brownell, Rochester, N. Y., has succeeded to the practice of the late Dr. J. G. Schmitt of that city.

The American Medical Association will hold its annual meeting for this year in San Francisco, beginning June 5th.

Dr. George M. Haywood, Rochester, is taking a special course on the eye and ear at the post-graduate school, New York.

Mr. A. J. Tafel, of Boericke & Tafel of Philadelphia and the United States, paid Chicago a business visit late last month.

Dr. Wm. Tod Helmuth, Jr., has opened an office at 278 West 71st street, New York, with hours until 11 a. m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Nebraska will hold her state meeting at Omaha on the 11th, 12th and 13th of June. Of course Nebraska *will not forget the Hahnemann Monument Fund.*

Ward's Island Hospital, New York, will hereafter be officially known as the Metropolitan Hospital. It has been removed to larger and better quarters on Blackwell's Island.

Dr. Henry Sherry, who has been in Colorado and California for a year past, is expected to return to Chicago about the first of June. His friends will give him a warm welcome.

Dr. Emma J. Warren, Chicago, has removed her residence to 417 La Salle avenue, corner of Division street. Her office remains at 138 Wells street, with hours from 12:30 to 2 and 5 to 6.

Indiana will hold her State meeting on the 17th, 18th and 19th of this month at Indianapolis. There should be a large attendance and doubtless will be. *Do not forget the Hahnemann Monument Fund.*

The sixth annual meeting of the Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan Homeopathic Medical Society was held in Elkhart on the 3d inst. The Century is very sorry not to have been represented at the meeting.

The Illinois State Society meeting will be held at Quincy on the 15th, 16th and 17th of this month. As the time draws near the clans are getting ready to attend in force. *Don't forget the Hahnemann Monument Fund.*

Dr. A. Leight Monroe, Louisville, spent a few days in Chicago, recently. He is always the same genial, jolly soul, who knows nothing of the troubles and irritations belonging to the lean kind. Oh, for a little less of the anti-fat in human anatomy, *a la* Monroe!

Dr. Philip Rice, a recent graduate of Hering Medical College, Chicago, has located in Milwaukee and will act as correspondent and agent in that city for the Medical Century. He is commended to the kindly consideration of his colleagues and the profession generally.

Dr. Amelia J. Burroughs, Omaha, president of the Nebraska Homeopathic Medical Society, spent a few days in Chicago the last of last month. While here she took occasion to invite a good attendance from this city upon Nebraska's meeting at Omaha on the 11th of June.

The 18th annual meeting of the California Homeopathic Medical Society was held at the Hotel Vendome, San Jose, on the 9th, 10th and 11th instant. A report of this enterprising and prosperous association will appear in the issue of the Medical Century for June 1st.

Chicago had enrolled in attendance upon her four Homeopathic medical colleges the past winter five hundred and twelve students. What a text there is here for a sermon on Homeopathic unity, and if our readers don't look out we will preach one from this text some of these fine days.

The New York Homeopathic Medical College held its commencement exercises in Mendelssohn Hall on the afternoon of May 3d, with its alumni banquet at Delmonico's on the evening of the same day. Sorry we have not received an account of the proceedings with particulars as to number graduated, etc.

The *North American Journal of Homeopathy* for May pays the editor of the Medical Century a very neat compliment in connnection with his relations to the American Institute of Homeopathy, for which gratitude is hereby expressed. It is pleasant for editors to be at peace with each other and the rest of mankind.

Dr. John Nicholls, a graduate of Hering Medical College, class of '94, has succeeded Dr. A. Hoffmann of St. Louis, as house physician at the Hahneman Hospital at Rochester. Dr. Nicholls is in every way worthy of the position to which he has been appointed and will undoubtedly reflect credit upon both himself and that institution.

The Century will continue from time to time to present galaxies of prominent men in various lines of professional work, and the ladies, bless their dear souls, shall not be overlooked. We have them on our list and even now have in course of preparation

a plate of the photographs of the first choice lot of fair dames and damsels for an early frontispiece.

Dr. Pemberton Dudley, General Secretary of the American Institute, has issued a preliminary circular announcing the near approach of the American Institute Jubilee Meeting and reviewing in brief the work to be done at the June session. Dr. Dudley is ever alive to the interests of the national association, and rarely allows a point of importance to escape his attention.

The Homeopathic Medical Department of the State University of Iowa is out with its announcement for 1894-95. If the early bird catches the worm in this instance Iowa City will surely have her crop full of Homeopathic wriggles next winter. The year just closed has been an unusually successful one with this college, and it is prospering as never before in its history.

"Of the making of books there is no end" if we may judge from the number being received at this office for review and notice. There are a score or more, most of them most excellent ones, too, awaiting examination, and as we shall be able to give them careful persual they will be duly noticed according to their merits as they are understood in this sanctum.

The National Homeopathic Medical College, Chicago, which institution was refused official recognition by the state board of health a year or two ago, and which endeavored to prosecute itself to recognition in the courts, has been formally and officially recognized by the state board and is now on equal footing with the older Homeopathic colleges of this city before the law.

During the month of March, Harper's Homeopathic Dispensary at 2913 Diamond street, Philadelphia, treated 342 cases, classified as follows: General medicine, 122; surgery, 87; eye and ear, 37; heart and lungs, 94. During the same month Charity at 731 Vine street, treated 433 patients, classified as follows: Medical, 162; surgical, 111; diseases of women and children, 160.

Michigan will hold her State meeting this year at Battle Creek on the 15th and 16th of this month. The Ann Arbor affair overshadowed everything else in Michigan last year, and it is barely possible that a review of the whole matter may be made at Battle Creek. A most excellent professional program has also been prepared and a good meeting will doubtless result. Let everybody go, and be sure *Do not forget the Hahnemann Monument Fund.*

The meeting of the Wisconsin State Homeopathic Medical Society will be held in Milwaukee May 29-31. Dr. A. R. F. Grob, chairman of the local committee of arrangements, has issued an urgent invitation to every member of the profession in the state to be present and participate in the meeting, and the invitation should be so generally accepted that the local fraternity will be sorry they spoke. *Of course the Hahnemann Monument Fund will not be forgotten.*

At the April meeting of the Illinois State Board of Health, the secretary, Dr. J. W. Scott, reported that 962 cases of smallpox had occurred within the boundaries of this city since January 1. Pretty bad record that, and it might be just as well for the State Board to pay more attention to the matter of public health and a little less to other matters. The smallpox should be stamped out and the State Board of Health ought to be able to devise ways and means for accomplishing this result.

The Homeopathic Medical Society of Monroe county, N. Y., held its regular quarterly meeting April 17. Among other papers presented was one on the Particular Relation of Dermatology to Diseases of the Internal Organs, by Dr. T. D. Spencer; another on Ovariotomy, by Dr. M. E. Graham; and a third Our Materia Medica and Some of the Essentials of Good Prescribing, by Dr. H. A. Anderson. The Century is promised the entire report of this meeting for it's next number.

During the Denver meeting there will be held a meeting of the National Association of Homeopathic Examiners, of which Dr. Asa S. Couch, Fredonia, New York, is president and Dr. H. M. Paine, Albany, New York, is secretary. As usual in everything done in its connection with medical legislation this association will be called upon to operate along the lines in which the old school is working, and this year has for its text the general plan of the old school National Conference of Medical Examining and Licensing Boards.

The Kentucky State meeting will take place at Lexington on the 15th, 16th and 17th instants. Sorry we cannot be present, but we cannot be there and at Quincy at the same moment and Illinois claims our attendance this year. The Kentucky meeting is always enjoyable and there will be an unusually good meeting at Lexington. Dr. Allison Clokey is secretary of the association and Dr. H. M. Marsh, Danville, is president. *Of course Dr. Marsh will not allow his society to forget the Hahnemann Monument Fund.*

Members of the American Institute who contemplate coming from New England and northern New York to Chicago to join the American Institute of Homeopathy special train will find it very much to their pleasure to join the party forming under the chaperonage of Dr. W. A. Dewey, associate editor of the Century, whose address is 170 West 54th street, New York, which caravan comes via the Boston & Albany, New York Central & Hudson River and Michigan Central railroads. It is expected this party will be quite a large one before Chicago is reached.

Chicago's death rate for the month of March, according to the official report of the city health department, is at the rate of 13.68 per thousand per annum. Smallpox is giving the department some little trouble just now, but with this exception the city is in an exceedingly healthy condition. There were an even one hundred cases of the plague reported during the month of March. Of typhoid fever there were but twenty-seven cases, of scarlet fever but sixteen, and of diphtheria but forty-nine. Splendid record this for a city of near two millions of people.

At the recently held meeting of the corporators of Pittsburgh Homeopathic Hospital a resolution was adopted strongly urging the municipal authorities to provide a hospital for contagious diseases. At present the municipal hospital receives only cases of smallpox, and cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, etc., developing among the poor can find no place of refuge. Only one of the large general hospitals is permitted by its charter to receive them and the facilities there are small. It is to be hoped that the city fathers will take the matter in hand and that before long Pittsburgh may be well provided for in that respect.

Dr. E. M. Hale's new work on the practice of medicine has been issued from the press by Gross & Del-

bridge, Chicago, and a copy is on our table for review. We have had time to but carelessly scan its pages and shall hold it over for an issue or two for more extended notice than can be given it with justice at this time. It is to be seen at a glance that there is much in it to commend, but it is also to be seen that it lacks a great deal of being a Homeopathic text-book on practice, hence our decision to somewhat delay its review, that justice may be done the book, its venerable author and the profession to whom it is offered.

Dr. Herbert M. Dayfoot, a well know practitioner living at Rochester, New York, died at Hahnemann Hospital, Philadelphia, where he had gone to receive surgical treatment, his death resulting from pulmonary embolism on the 22d of April. Dr. Dayfoot was very much respected and beloved in Rochester and wherever known, and in his sudden demise the profession has lost a really valuable member. He was forty-eight years of age. He had practiced his profession twenty-seven years and was a member of several medical societies. The death of men of the standing and attainments of Dr. Dayfoot is always a source of great loss and deep regret to the profession.

From copies of Atlanta papers kindly sent us by Dr. Orme we see that the old school State Association in Georgia, not satisfied with its ignominious defeat before the legislature last winter, proposes to compel us to have proscriptive legislation whether or no. They have again thrown down the gauntlet and it has again been taken up by the Eclectic profession, who, in the daily papers of next day, announce their determination to start in and fight to the finish. Meanwhile, while the friends of the opposing schools are warring with all the vigor of their souls our Dr. Orme will quietly get in his little knife and the old school will again go down in defeat. It has ever been thus in Georgia and thus it will ever be so long as Dr. Orme shall live.

A very handsome invitation to the 46th annual commencement exercises of Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, was issued by that college, the exercises taking place on the evening of Tuesday, May 8th, at the American Academy of Music. The Alumni Association held its association meeting and banquet at the Hotel Stratford on the evening of the same day and an unusually delightful meeting was the result. Ye editor-in-chief of ye MEDICAL CENTURY was an invited guest and a most willing participant in the festivities of the occasion, and but for the fact that the current issue of this journal was locked in its forms prior to the date of the meeting a comprehensive account of Philadelphia's jubilee would be given in this issue. Look out for what he may have to say in the next number.

The wives of the physicians of the Homeopathic profession of Denver have organized a local auxiliary of the "Meissen," and are making great progress in helping the entertainment committee toward providing formal and informal receptions for the entire eight days of the convention. The "Meissen" will hold its first reception on Friday from 3 to 5 P. M., and on Saturday evening from 8:30 to 11:30. The full dress reception will be given at the Brown Palace, to which prominent citizens will be invited. The evening of Thursday, the first day of the convention, will be given over to the Jubilee program, and the memorial services will take place at the Baptist Church on Sunday evening. In giving this information to the MEDICAL CENTURY, Dr. N. G. Burnham, of Denver, closes as follows: "Sound the glad tidings and bring the hosts with you." That is exactly what the journals are all doing, and from every indication the hosts will be there in such force as to tax the entertaining abilities of the Colorado profession.

Not the least of the delightful features connected with the American Institute's itinerary in Colorado this summer is the prospect of spending a few days at the far-famed Glenwood Springs, 250 miles west of Denver, in the very heart of the Rockies. This is pronounced one of the most delightful and romantic spots on the face of the globe. The elegant hotel, "The Colorado," under the management of the Raymond and Whitcomb people, is located immediately on the bank of Glenwood Lake, and is pronounced one of the best hostelries in this country. A very much reduced rate has been secured for the "Circle Trip" over the Denver and Rio Grande and Colorado Midland, embracing stop-over privileges in both directions. There is no more delightful resort in the United States than Glenwood at which the physician can spend his summer vacation and if the Institute affords no attractions in itself the special features embraced in the after-convention outing should insure a very large attendance at the meeting of this summer.

"Gonorrhoea and its Complications" is the title of a work of three hundred and thirty pages just issued by Wm. Wood & Co., New York, under the authorship of Dr. Ernest Finger of the University of Vienna, third revised and enlarged edition, which will be found practical and helpful to the venereal specialist and useful to the general practitioner as well. It is a handsome volume, well illustrated, goes minutely into the detail of constitutional infection by the gonorrhoeal virus and reveals a host of troubles due to this potent cause. No longer believed to be the simple ailment gonorrhoea was once thought to be, it is necessary that works of this character should be presented to the profession. Many a man and woman has been made to suffer severe constitutional infection and systemic derangement from gonorrhoea because it has been looked upon by the physician in charge as a trifling urethritis, and if Dr. Finger does nothing more than to show to the profession the severity and intractibility of this disorder his work will have served a most excellent purpose.

Dr. A. B. Norton, 16 West 45th street, New York, is organizing a party of physicians from New York and vicinity, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and points along the line to go via the Pennsylvania road to St. Louis, thence via Chicago & Alton to Kansas City, there to join the official train of the Institute from Chicago, on the morning of June 13th, all to travel across the plains to Denver together. His will be a jolly itinerary and all who desire to join the band should confer with Dr. Norton at New York, Dr. W. W. Van Baum, 419 Pine street, Philadelphia, or Dr. L. H. Willard, Allegheny, for accommodations in sleepers, etc. Those who contemplate joining the party at St Louis should apply at an early date to the editor of this journal for sleeper from St. Louis west. Let everybody go and make this year of our Lord eighteen hundred and ninety-four a memorable one in Homeopathy's history. We finish our first half hundred years as an American Institute. Let us start the ball rolling on the second half century in magnificent style and with great momentum. Let everybody go.

The Board of Regents of the Iowa University at a recent meeting (April 25th), adopted plans and spec-

ifications for the new building for this department, and it is expected it will be completed and ready for occupancy soon after the opening of the spring term. The new Homeopathic Medical Building and Hospital will be erected on the northwest corner of the park, at the intersection of Dubuque and Jefferson streets, opposite the Chemical Laboratory. It will be three stories in height, of brick, with a slate roof, and contain in the college portion, a lecture room, amphitheater, museum, library, office, faculty room, dispensary, and anesthetic room, and will furnish accommodation for from 150 to 200 students. The hospital portion will contain two large wards, four private wards; nurses', matrons', house surgeons', and domestics' rooms; a reception room, dining room, kitchen, laundry, bath rooms and other necessary conveniences, such as elevator, dumb waiters, and the like. The capacity will be double that of the old building. The Iowa profession are to be congratulated upon this realization of their hopes, that has been so long delayed.

Perhaps one of the most charming routes westward to the American Institute meeting is the picturesque Chespeake and Ohio. This road passes through four hundred miles of the grandest mountain, river and cañon scenery east of the Rockies. Crossing the Blue Ridge and Allegheny mountains, the Piedmont and Shenandoah valleys, along the banks of the Kanawha and Ohio rivers and through the blue grass region of Kentucky, it forms a most direct route from Washington and Richmond to Chicago, via Cincinnati and Indianapolis. For those who wish to take in the beautiful mountain scenery of Virginia and West Virginia, for those who desire to journey westward via Louisville, Kentucky and St. Louis, this route offers inducements of the best. The famous "F. F. V." train leaves New York at 5 P. M., Washington at 10:55 P. M., passing through the mountain regions the following day, reaching Cincinnati in the evening and Chicago the following morning. American Institute members who have been over other roads until they have become wearied of them may well bear in mind the "Fast Flying Virginian."

A bill has been introduced in the United States Senate by Senator Gray providing for the establishment of a department of public health, the bill being that drafted and endorsed by the American Medical Association. This bill creates a new cabinet officer, an assistant secretary and the necessary force of clerical employes, whose duties it would be to issue weekly bulletins of the sanitary condition of all ports and places in the United States possible; procure medical, vital and social statistics; information relative to climatic conditions beneficial to health; intemperance; prostitution; the condition of the laboring classes, including the soundness of food and water supply to cities and towns, etc. An appropriation of $50,000 is proposed in the bill for carrying out its purposes. This is a measure which it will be just as well for our friends at Washington to keep track of. It is the policy of the American Medical Association and the old school profession to gain control of the medical affairs and sanitary matters of this country, and it behooves us to be on our guard lest we find ourselves so surrounded by such a grandmotherly paternalism that liberty in matters medical will be a thing of the past.

For several years the ladies accompanying their husbands or relatives to the American Institute meeting have felt a difficulty in breaking over conventional barriers and in meeting in cordial social relations during the sessions. This defect has been, it is hoped, overcome by the formal organization last year at Chicago of the "Meissen," the purpose of this association being that of affording the ladies in attendance at the meetings frequent opportunities for becoming acquainted with one another, and for arranging such plans as may be mutually agreeable for contributing to the enjoyment of the occasion. An efficient and enthusiastic local committee of ladies residing at Denver, acting in coöperation with the entertainment committee of the Institute, have made special arrangements for carrying out the purposes and objects of the association. It is hoped that through the organization of the "Meissen" larger numbers of the wives and daughters of members will be induced to test the value of this experiment by their presence at the Denver meeting. Mrs. C. S. Hoag, Bridgeport, Conn., is corresponding secretary of the "Meissen," and ladies contemplating joining it should at once communicate with her. The membership fee is one dollar.

The local committee on arrangements at Denver has issued the preliminary circular announcing many delightful attractions for that occasion. The Institute's headquarters have been located at the Brown Palace Hotel, which is conducted on the American plan, and since its management have also under their control the Metropole, just across the street, members attending will have but little difficulty in securing hotel accommodations to suit their desires and purses. All communications relative to this subject should be addressed to Dr. W. A. Burr, chairman of the hotel committee. In the announcement the general committee tells us that negotiations are pending for railroad concessions in rates to all points of interest in the Rocky Mountain district. The "Loop Trip" has been provided for by the Institute's transportation committee and one-half fare rates have been secured for all lines in Colorado and Utah. The Denver committee is trying to effect special reductions for Pike's Peak, Manitou, Cripple Creek and other interesting resorts. The sessions of the Institute are to be held in the First Baptist Church, located but a few rods from the Brown Palace. It's auditorium is very large and its committee rooms ample for the work of the Institute. Special social features have been provided for the occasion, and the member of the profession who fails to appear on the 14th of June at Denver is to be commiserated.

At the regular meeting of the Illinois State Board of Health, held the third week in April, that body refused to give recognition to the diplomas of the Barnes Medical College, St. Louis, and also those of the St. Louis College of Physicians and Surgeons, their standard of requirement for the doctor's degree not being up to that of the board. The American Medical College of the same city, whose diplomas have been recognized, was given a set back by being stricken from the list of recognized institutions. It was at this meeting of the Board that Hering Medical College, of Chicago, was given official recognition. It would seem that the Illinois Board of Health has pretty well solved the problem of medical control. They go right to the fountain head, demand certain requirements of the teaching institutions and give recognition to no diploma issued by colleges whose grade is not up to a certain standard. Far more sensible this character of legislation if we must submit to medical bossism than that which pays no attention to the colleges, the source of

supply, but directs its javelins at the inoffensive heads of individual candidates who may have passed teaching institutions to them apparently all right. If there is any sort of protection needed in the profession of medicine it is that our young men and young women shall be protected from the imposition of colleges unworthy of recognition. The Illinois State Board of Health is on the right track in that feature of its work if we are to have paternalism in regard to medical affairs practiced in this country at all.

The MEDICAL CENTURY is in receipt of a communication from Mr. J. H. Bennett, General Passenger and Ticket Agent of the Rio Grande Western Railway, with headquarters at Salt Lake City, in which he informs us that the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, the Homeopathic Society of that city and the management of the Rio Grande Western Railway join in inviting the physicians attending the Denver convention to continue their trip to Salt Lake City, Ogden and other points of historic and scenic interest in Utah. With its Denver connections, the Denver and Rio Grande and Colorado Midland, the Rio Grande Western has arranged a special rate of $25 from Denver to all points in Utah, and tickets will be sold on the last two days of the Denver meeting, with the time named sufficient to enable excursionists to spend their incompleted vacation time in this territory, which has been aptly termed "The Mountain Walled Treasury of the Gods." Among other attractions mentioned are the various hot and warm springs, sanitariums, the great Salt Lake bathing resorts and an incomparable climate. Mr. Bennett presses upon us to urge the members of the Institute not to miss this opportunity to visit that which he styles that "Western Wonderland." Utah is proclaimed to be the "coming state," and before long it is expected it will stand foremost in the Union as the land of sunshine and resources, both mineral and agricultural, and a most cordial invitation is extended to the Homeopathic profession to "come and see us in our own dominions." Those western people, whether of our profession or the railroad class, are doing their very utmost to induce a large attendance upon the Denver convention. Surely the railroad attractions have never been equalled in the history of the American Institute.

An international sanitary convention was held in Paris last month. Among other important matters brought up for consideration was the question of the prevention of the spread of cholera. Three series of precautionary measures were adopted by the conference, the first referring to the measures to be taken at ports in India from which pilgrims for Mecca embark, the details as to disinfection, medical inspection, the allotment of space to each pilgrim on board ship, etc., being carefully defined. All ships carrying pilgrims will be required to have a competent physician and an adequate supply of wholesome drinking water. The second series provide for the reorganization of the Turkish lazarettos in the Red Sea. The quarantine of pilgrim ships from India formerly varied from two to seven weeks whether the vessel had a clean bill of health or not. By the terms of the new convention a ship with a clean bill of health will be delayed only long enough for medical inspection, and contaminated or suspected vessels will not be detained in quarantine more than five days. The third series relate to precautionary measures in the matter of the return of pilgrims from Mecca by the lazaretto of Tor, in Arabia Petrea, on the east shore of the Gulf of Suez. The conference has earnestly urged the Turkish Government to reorganize its sanitary administration thoroughly, with a view of preventing the introduction of cholera into Europe by land. If the decisions and recommendation of the conference are carried out, it is believed that the importation of cholera into the United States and Europe will be effectually checked. The discussions and the decisions arrived at by the Dresden and Venice conventions in regard to matters of quarantine formed the basis of the deliberations of the delegates to the conference.

The following roads will give one-third fare for the return trip on the certificate plan, providing 100 certificates are purchased from the different roads mentioned below; otherwise full fare will be necessary for the return trip. Be careful to secure the certificate from the agent of whom you buy the ticket, which must be countersigned by the secretary of the association before returning: Illinois Central Ry.; Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Ry. Co.; Chicago & Northwestern Ry.; Chicago, Burlington & Northern Ry.; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry.; Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Ry.; Chicago & Alton Ry.; Wabash Ry.; Iowa Central Ry.; Chicago Great Western Ry.; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Ry.; Wisconsin Central Lines.

An elaborate program of the thirty-ninth annual session of the Illinois Homeopathic Medical Association to be held at Quincy, Illinois, May 15th, 16th and 17th, has been prepared and mailed to members. The officers for this year are as follows: President, A. K. Crawford, M. D., Chicago; 1st vice president, F. E. Downey, M. D., Clinton; 2d vice president, Lucy Waite, M. D., Chicago; secretary, Wesley A. Dunn, M. D., Chicago; treasurer, A. A. Whipple, M. D., Quincy; prov. secretary, L. N. Grosvenor, M. D., Chicago. Board of Censors: T. C. Duncan, M. D., Chicago; M. J. Hill, M. D., Sterling; C. B. Kinyon, M. D., Rock Island. The official stenographer is Prof. J. A. Philbrick.

The following order of business has been arranged:

Calling the Society to order, 10 o'clock A. M.

Prayer, Rev. E. Armstrong Ince, M. D., D. D.

Address of Welcome by Hon. John P. Mikesell, Mayor.

Response by the President, A. K. Crawford, M. D.

Report of Secretary, Wesley A. Dunn, M. D.

Report of Treasurer, A. A. Whipple, M. D.

Applications for Membership and Report of the Board of Censors.

Report of the Legislative Committee.

Address of President, A. K. Crawford, M. D.

Appointment of Committee on President's Address.

Appointment of Committee on Publication.

Collection of Annual Dues by the Treasurer.

Report of Bureaux.

Appointment of Chairmen of Bureaux.

Appointment of Delegates to other Societies.

Miscellaneous Business.

The bureaux assignment and papers promised are as follows:

Obstetrics.—A. A. Whipple, M. D., Quincy, chairman; "Mastitis," Julia Homes Smith, M. D., Chicago; "Chorea in Pregnancy," E. M. Hale, M. D., Chicago; "One Hundred Consecutive Cases of Delivery and the Lessons to be drawn from them," H. M. Bascom, M. D., Ottawa; "Traumatic Atresia as a Factor in Dystocia," C. B. Kinyon, M. D., Rock Island; "Interrogation Points in Obstetrics," J. B. Dunham, M. D., Wenona; "Uterine Stimulants in Labor," T. H. Watson, M. D., Griggsville; "Septicæmia," F. W.

Gordon, M. D., Sterling; "Obstetrical Observations," C. A. Weirick, M. D., Chicago; "The True Mechanism of Labor in O. P. Positions," R. N. Foster, M. D., Chicago; "The Care of the Lady during Gestation," L. C. Grosvenor, M. D., Chicago; "A few Suggestions for the Improvement of the Race," M. E. A. McCracken, M. D., Chicago; "Random Thoughts on Obstetric Practice," S. C. Whitcomb, M. D., Oneida; "The Management of Labor and the Care of the Lying-in Room," W. L. Winnard, M.D., Warsaw; "The Retention of the Placenta," J. C. Bennett, M. D., Evanston; "Dystocia — A Rare Case," S. P. Hedges, M. D., Chicago; "Care of Mother and Child in Puerperal State," F. Dilliard, M. D., Stillman Valley; "Abortion Caused by an Undeveloped or Malformed Uterus," Anna M. Parker, M. D., Chicago; "The Bandage and the Douche in Obstetric Practice," E. E. Vaughan, M. D., Chicago; "Abortion," T. Griswold Comstock, M.D., St. Louis; "TheUse and Abuse of Obstetrical Forceps," A. A. Whipple, M. D., Quincy; "The Surgery of Orificial Work after Confinement," H. P. Skiles, M. D., Chicago.

Medical Legislation, Jurisprudence and Education.—J. A. Vincent, M. D., Springfield, chairman. —"The State Board of Health," J. A. Vincent, M. D., Springfield; "Medical Education," H. Tyler Wilcox, M. D., Chicago.

Gynecology.—E. Stillman Bailey, M. D., Chicago, chairman.—"Abuse of Pessaries," Abbie G. Hinkle, M. D., Chicago; "Cystitis," Curtis M. Beebe, M.D., Chicago; "The Relation of Gynecology to General Medicine," G. E. Cogswell, M. D., Waukegan; "Insanity from Reflex Causes," Jno. B. Vivian, M. D., Galesburg; "Treatment of Uterine Fibroids," E. S. Bailey, M. D., Chicage.

Materia Medica.—A. C. Cowperthwaite, M. D., Chicago, chairman.—"Causticum," A. C. Cowperthwaite, M. D. Chicago; "Some Drug Experiences," A. G. Downer, M. D., Princeton; "Digitalis and Cactus Grand,—A Study," A. F. Storke, M. D., Oak Park; "Phytolacca Decandra," C. D. Fairbanks, M. D., Chicago; "Some New Remedies," E. M. Hale, M. D., Chicago; "Lachesis," C. H. Evans, M. D., Chicago; "Some Hints on the Study of the Materia Medica," J. E. Gilman, M. D., Chicago.

Pediatrics. — C. T. Canfield, M. D., Chicago, chairman.—"Sequelæ of Suppressed Eczema, with Clinical Cases," C. T. Canfield, M. D., Chicago; "The Duty of the Physician in the Management of the Acute Pulmonary Diseases of Children," F. E. Downey, M. D., Clinton; "The Care of New-Born Infants," Sarah W. Andrews, M. D., Chicago; "The Pathology and Treatment of Puberty," Kate I. Graves, M. D., Chicago; "Artificial Food for Infants," J. P. Cobb, M. D., Chicago; "Neurasthenia of Children," E. N. Chaney, M. D., Chicago; "Infantile Scurvy," C. E. Fisher, M. D., Chicago.

Ophthalmology and Otology.—C. H. Vilas, M. D., Chicago, chairman.—"Keratitis," C. H. Vilas, M. D., Chicago; "Suggestions on some Points in Eye Diseases Occurring in Children," E. John Abbott, M. D., Chicago; "Muscular Diseases of the Eye," L. W. Jordan, M. D., Indianapolis, Ind.

The election of officers for 1895 will take place Wednesday at 12 o'clock.

Rhinology, Laryngology and Pneumonology.—Wesley A. Dunn, M. D., Chicago, chairman.—"Modern Surgery of the Mouth," Wesley A. Dunn, M. D., Chicago; "Pharyngitis," C. G. Fellows, M. D., Chicago; "The Modern Treatment of Pneumonia," Thos. E. Roberts, M. D., Oak Park; "Comparative Pulmonary Tuberculosis," A. K. Crawford, M. D., Chicago.

Surgery.—H. R. Chislett, M. D., Chicago, chairman.—"Specimens of Uterine Pathology," E. H. Pratt, M. D., Chicago; "Varicocele," A. L. Blackwood, M. D., So. Chicago; "Intestinal Anastomosis," W. S. Harvey, M. D., Chicago; "Railway Surgery," N. P. Smith, M. D., Paris; "The Early Operation in Appendicitis," Howard Crutcher, M. D., Chicago; "Brain Surgery," L. D. Rogers, M. D., Chicago; "The Omentum from the Surgical Standpoint," J. E. Tremaine, M. D., Chicago; "The Use and Abuse of the American Operation," J. J. Thompson, M. D., Chicago; "The Treatment of Fractures of the Lower Limbs," F. E. Nichols, M. D., Plano; "Double Hare-Lip with Cleft and Deformity of Maxillary Bone," A. A. Whipple, M. D., Quincy; "Traumatic Spinal Irritation," D. A. Foote, M. D., Omaha; "Compression vs. Concussion of the Brain," H. R. Chislett, M. D., Chicago.

Neurology, Psychology, Electrology. — C. M. Haynes, M. D., Chicago, chairman.—"Electricity in the Nerve Disorders of the Climacteric," C. M. Haynes, M. D., Chicago; "Physiological Psychology," G. F. Washburn, M. D., Chicago; "Was it Lateral Sclerosis?" Anna M. Parker, M. D., Chicago; "The Static Current," L. F. Schussler, M. D., Alton; "Lumbo Myelitis," Walter C. Lovejoy, M. D., Marseilles.

Clinical Medicine.—F. E. Nichols, M. D., Plano, chairman. "Prophylactics in Diseases of Children," F. E. Nichols, M. D., Plano; "Multum in Parvo," I. N. Paul, M. D., Perry, Iowa; "How to Treat Incipient Phthisis," B. S. Arnulphy, M. D., Chicago; "The Value of Clinical Symptoms," W. J. Hawkes, M. D., Chicago; "Thoughts on Diphtheria," M. J. Chase, M. D., Galesburg; "Report of a case of Endocarditis," Thos. E. Roberts, M. D., Oak Park; "The Relation of Bronchitis and Asthma to Phthisis Pulmonalis," T. C. Duncan, M. D., Chicago; "Exophthalmic Goitre with Complications," W. F. Spencer, M. D., Geneseo; "The Treatment of Certain Diseases of the Urinary Tract," Clifford Mitchell, M. D., Chicago; "The Treatment of Intestinal Obstructions by Means of Rectal Injections," J. Martine Kershaw, M. D., St. Louis, Mo.

Sanitary Science and Hygiene.—Howard Crutcher, M. D., Chicago, Chairman. "The Problem of Heating our Homes," Howard Crutcher, M. D., Chicago; "House Building in Relation to Sanitation," Geo. M. Ockford, M. D., Ridgewood, N. J.; "Vaccination No Safeguard Against Smallpox," Wm. B. Clark, M. D., Indianapolis, Ind.; "Sanitary Science and Hygiene in Pulmonary Diseases," O. F. Pierce, M. D., Chicago; "Typhoid Fever;—its Cause and Prevention," L. C. Grosvenor, M. D., Chicago.

Pathology, Physiology and Histology.—M. Houston, M. D., Joliet, chairman. "The Muscular Factor," M. Houston, M. D., Joliet; "Suppression of Disease,—Its Effects," H. W. Pierson, M. D., Chicago.

Medical Literature.—Wilson A. Smith, M. D., Morgan Park, chairman. "Our Literary Progress," Wilson A. Smith, M. D.

Necrology and Statistics.—T. S. Hoyne, M. D., Chicago, chairman. "Our Statistics," T. S. Hoyne, M. D., Chicago.

The foregoing affords an elaborate program and the attendance should be and doubtless will be unusually large. *Do not forget* the *Hahnemann Monument Fund.*

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